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The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

JULY 15th, 1976, ISSUE No. 26.

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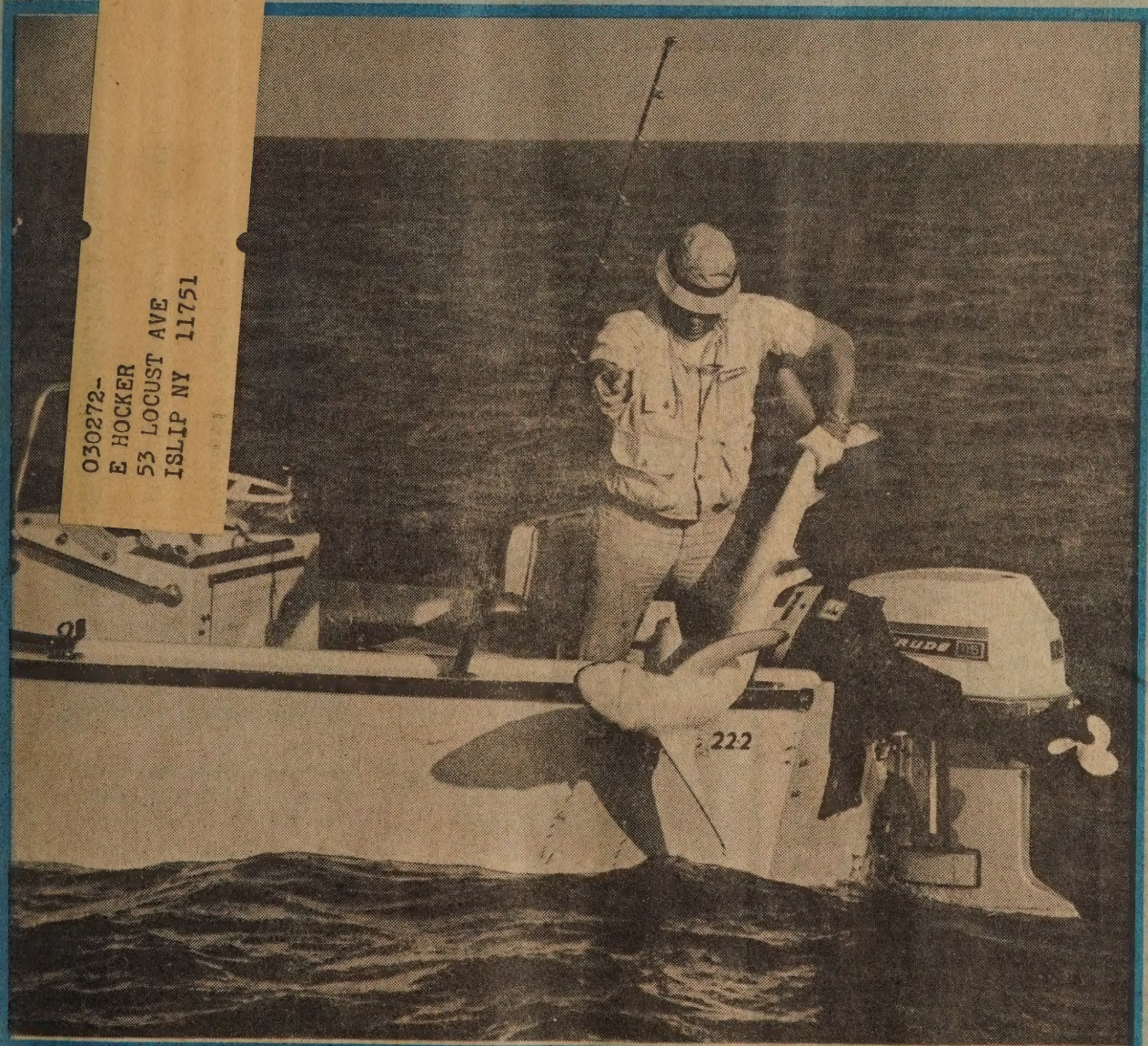

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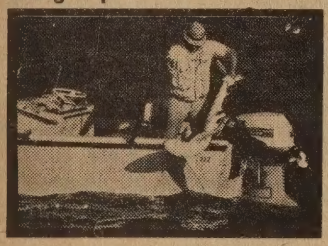

About the Cover—

A representative of the Garcia Corp. lifts a small (?) into his boat. Read all about how not to do this in Al Ristori's series on "Basic Sharking" starting on page 12 in this issue. Photo by Al Ristori.

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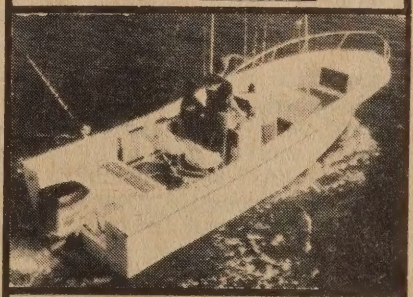

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News Releases

D.E.C. DISCOVERS DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ARTIFICIALS & BAIT!!!

Some fishing waters off New York State are limited to anglers using artificial lures only. This has prompted questions by fishermen as to whether or not some life-like plastic worms and insects are considered "artificials". To solve this problem, Commissioner of Environmental Conservation Peter A.A. Berle has issued an order which spells out in detail which baits are considered artificial and which are natural.

Definitions, according to the order, are as follows:

"Artificial lures or bait" shall mean man-made flies, spinners, spoons, plugs jigs and other lures, even though there may be some natural substances contained in such lures as, but not limited to, deer hair and feathers, and artificial imitations of natural bait.

"Natural bait" shall mean all baits which entice or might be ingested or swallowed by fish including, but not limited to, fish (dead and alive), fish eggs, worms, shellfish, crustacea, amphibians (salamanders, frogs and toads), insects (including all stages of development as larvae, pupae, etc.), pork rinds, liver, meat, corn or other vegetable matter, tapioca, candy, cheese and bread. For further information call Arthur Woldt at (518) 457-5400.

Editors Note: Who says the D.E.C. isn't spending enough time on Marine Research? In the last month we have received about a dozen news releases from the D.E.C. on topics such as black bears raiding garbage dumps, a management plan to save the bog turtle from extinction, the prices of muskrat furs, etc. This release was the one and only concerning fishing. Hopefully next month they will honor us with a report on how to distinguish the difference between a fish and a mammal? We would also like to point out to our readers that the D.E.C. inadvertantly left pepperoni, kielbasa, mayonnaise, hot dogs and cheese doodles off their list of natural baits. SS

CONTESTS & TOURNAMENTS

BTC INVITATIONAL TUNA & MARLIN TOURNAMENT

The Babylon Tuna Club, in conjunction with the Village of Babylon, will again hold its Invitational Tuna and Marlin Tournament and Charity Fish Sale on July 24th and 25th at the Village Dock, located at the foot of Fire Island Avenue.

This year in keeping with efforts to conserve the tuna, only fish weighing 14 pounds or more will be eligible for prizes, with the smaller fish being tagged and released. As in the past, commencing at 3 o'clock each afternoon, the fish brought to the dock will be sold to the public with the proceeds being donated to the Babylon Auxiliary of the Association for the Help of Retarded Children.

This has long been a premier event on the Island's south shore, with boats coming from as far away as New Jersey to compete for the many prizes and awards. A special prize being awarded this year to the angler catching the largest tuna, will be the Nicholas Racanelli Memorial Trophy which will consist of a Penn International 50 reel and matching custom made rod which is being donated by the Racanelli family in memory of Nicholas, a well known Long Island builder and sportsman who berthed his 38 foot Bertram "Jimini" at Montauk. The winner will also have his name inscribed on a perpetual trophy which will be on public display. Any inquiries should be directed to the Tournament Director, Mr. Thomas Claps 23 Homestead Drive, Wheatly Heights, New York 11798 or call (516) 643-7758.

SECOND ANNUAL MORICHES SHARK TOURNAMENT

Held on Saturday June 12th between 6 A.M. and 5 P.M., 61 boats with 251 anglers participated. Despite forecase of late afternoon winds, all boats safely returned with the exception of one small boat whose stern opened up and sunk. The crew was picked up by another boat, "Islander" and returned, unharmed.

The 80 foot Coast Guard Cutter, "Point Wells" from Montauk Coast Guard Station was in the area at all times to respond to any calls. It was underway to the "May Day" call of the boat that went down "Tippa Canoe" when the crew was saved by the "Islander" crew. The participants fished every southerly course from 100 to 200 foot depths. Reports of boated sharks began at 8:45 A.M. Many fish were tagged and released. People who managed to fish through the marauding bluefish did very well with the sharks.

There were about 100 sharks weighed in in the late afternoon at Shoreline Marina, Center Moriches. The first was a 61 pound blueshark at 2:15 P.M. Weigh-ins continued until the Tournament's end. 90 blue sharks and 9 makos graced the scales during the afternoon. Reports of duskies and browns fought and lost came in. 6 fish over 200 pounds were weighed. About 300 sharks were caught.

Tournament results were: Most sharks tagged and released by one boat was won by the "Gadeling" (5 tagged releases. Capt. Nick Karas, Crew John Naimoli and Platt Penny. 1st place price of $1066.75 was awarded for a 275 lb. mako shark landed on the "Rogue" by the tournament committee chairman, Capt. Tom Cashman, crew Chuck Perrone, Chet Wilcox and Bob Braun. The "Rogue" also had a 200 lb. blue shark.

½nd place price of $640.05 was awarded for a blue shark of 253 pounds caught on the "Susan D" by Capt. Butch Arsenault, Crew George Mann, Alan Ketcham, and Frank Hoffman and 3rd place price of $426.70 was awarded for a 238 lb. mako shark boated by Joe Czajowski, crew aboard and the "Geraldine". Capt. Richard Weinmann, crew Joe Czajowski, Dwayne Weinmann and Ron Brown.

CLUB NEWS

PATCHOGUE FISHING CLUB FLUKE FISHING DERBY

The Biblical Phrase "The Babes Shall Lead Them" literally was true at our Fluke Fishing Derby which was held on Sunday, June 27th out of the Hi-Way Fishing Station in the Moriches.

Twenty five serious anglers, two junior members and one junior guest took part in the Derby, and believe it or not, the juniors took most of the prizes. Junior guest Mark Moran took the top pool prize with his 3 lb. 2 oz. fluke and junior member Paul Erny took second prize money with his 2 lb. 12 oz. fluke. Club prizes were awarded as follows:

1st prize to Junior Member Paul Erny for his 2 lb. 12 oz. fluke; 2nd to Al Sodin for his 2 lb. 4 oz. fluke; 3rd to Vic Yannacone for his 2 lb. 1 oz. fluke and 4th to Junior Member Scott Ritchie for his fluke of 2 pounds.

Although we do not have a count on the total number of fish caught, we do know that four fish were thrown back for each fish retained, and I must say that we had quite a good catch of keepers.

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Latest Contest Entry:

Bob Gallo hung this 58 lb. 1 oz. striper on a dead bunker, fishing Nassau Beach (W. of Jones In.). Fish was weighed in at Mako Marina, Freeport & is the current leader in Island Marine Taxidermy's BIG FISH CONTEST.

Present Contest Leaders:

MARLIN
#1
#2
#3

MAKO
#1—Paul Bardenhagen, 310 lbs., Mako Marina
#2—Ed Fitzpatrick, 290 lbs., Shotgun II
#3—Larry Christie, 282 lbs., Holbrook, N.Y.

BASS
#1 Bob Gallo, 58 lbs. 1 oz., Mako Marina
#2—Dick Mele, 54 lbs., 8 oz., Empire St. Club
#3—Ralph Sinopoli, 42 lbs. 4 oz., Merrick

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Sinker Bouncing with Matt Ahern

In The Most Unlikely Places

Fish, like gold, are where you find them. Every fisherman I know is a creature of habit. And I'm no exception. I know if I'm lucky enough to catch fish in one particular place, I'd have to be some kind of fool to want to try elsewhere. Like you, I'm going to go to work on that spot whenever I can, and as often as I can.

All well and good, but what about those places that appear to have no fishing potential? Those areas that look as though they wouldn't interest a self-respecting killy? Ever try 'em? Me neither; except under those rare conditions when I'm practically forced to.

Like the time two summers ago when Dom Vachone, myself and two of Dom's buddies from Merrick aboard Dom's outboard rig. Our destination, Jones Inlet, where we hoped to connect with some willing fluke.

Our hopes were short lived, however. The engine began coughing and strangling and went into a coma just as we were tracking through a maze of narrow, back-water creeks, a half-mile or so before entering East Bay. And that was that. We each took a shot at trying to breathe life back into Dom's pride and joy, but no luck.

Ever have that disgusted feeling? You're certain the fish are but short miles away, and there you are stuck with your chances of reaching them fast disappearing. That's how it was for us that day.

"You guys fish, and I'll work on this &#—:†!" Dom said.

One of the guys gave a short, "You're kidding?" he asked. "There's no more than four feet of water here, and it's high tide."

"Anybody got a better idea?"

Nobody did, so we fished and caught fluke! Fifteen. Right under the boat.

Many times I wonder how often we guys ignore good fishing spots because they don't look "fishy" enough. Dom had been passing over that particular area for years and never considered its potential. Nor was this one of those "Once in a lifetime" deals. When conditions are right, Dom makes it a point to spend a little time in the area. The other day he told me that there was only one time last year when he failed to score. Good boy, Dom.

Ever notice shore fishermen who seem to be doing nothing more than standing around, batting the breeze? Well, don't be sure that's all they're doing. Maybe you're not there at the right time. Maybe they're really not wasting their time at all.

There's one particular area on the bay side of Shinnecock Inlet that fits this description: it also draws fishermen like flies. Outside of an occasional fluke or blackfish, plus a flounder or two, some good snapper fishing in summertime and a million bergalls anytime, there never seemed to be enough fish around to make it worthwhile. But appearances can be deceiving.

The result of fishing "in the most unlikely places": Shinnecock "fluke-sized" flounders.

I found that out one foggy morning last March when my son, Steve, came barreling into the house. "Get the bait! They're catching fluke-sized flounders right off the beach by the inlet!"

I happen to know this particular area fairly well because it isn't too far from where we live, but I never thought too much about it being a good fishing spot. Being close to the inlet proper, the current is strong, except for an hour or two at low and high tides. And I've never been enthusiastic about shore fishing in strong tides. You've got to plan it right if you want to fish this area; if you don't, all you'll reap for your efforts are copious amounts of seaweed.

We hurried to the inlet, but arrived too late to do ourselves much good. We hit the tail end of the blitz. And from what we heard, blitz it must have been.

The tide had already picked up, and most of the fishermen had left. But according to the few die-hards who remained, everyone had taken at least five or six fish. Now, five or six flounder per man is no earth-shaking feat, but when I saw the size of the fish lying on the beach, all I could way was "Wow!" I needed no coaxing to give it a try, tide or no tide.

We managed one flounder apiece before conditions became impossible, and my one regret was not being there at the beginning of the run. Both fish were well over two pounds. "Fluke-sized" was no exaggeration. For shore-caught flounder, they were beauties.

I tried it again the next day, and while there were several "monsters" caught, I didn't connect. The next day the large fish were conspicious by their absence, and that was it.

You can bet that I will no longer make snap judgements about any fishing area just because it doesn't look "fishy" enough to me.

I know one thing: You don't have to lack angling experience to pass up good fishing spots, I remember the time my fishing buddy, Artie Leidecker pulled a good one.

Now, Artie is a guy I've been fishing with on and off for nearly fifty years. He's about the shrewdest bottom fisherman I know and I've written about him several times in my articles. As far as I'm concerned, what Artie doesn't know about the bottom fishing game can be put in a gnat's eye. But this day he wasn't up to par. He pulled a near-boner so bad that whenever he gets out of hand, I remind him of it—just to let him know he's a mere mortal, too.

One early fall day we were on our way from Canarsie to offshore Sea Bright, hoping to get in on some of the fantastic blackfishing we'd heard about. Upon passing on the far side of Ambrose Channel, I noticed a large swirl on the surface of the water. I called it to Artie's attention.

"Yeah", he said. "One of those unmarked wrecks, I think. The tide and wind has to be just right before you notice it on the surface. Like now. That's some tide down there."

"You think we ought to—"

"Naa. I tried it one time. Some job anchoring up. Nothing but bergalls. It's

(Continued on page 58.)

THE FISHERMAN IQ TEST

1 HOW DO INLAND AQUARIUMS OBTAIN SEA WATER FOR THEIR SALT WATER FISHES AND MAMMALS ?

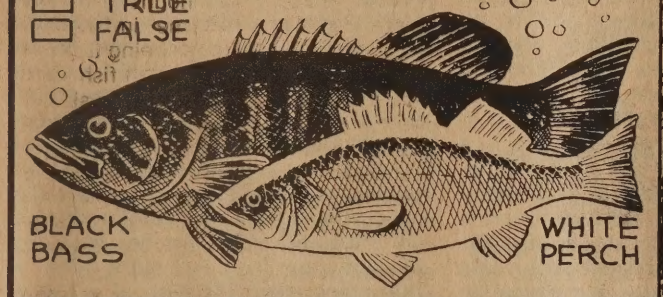
ANSWERS AT BOTTOM OF PAGE.

2 WHO IS THE PATRON SAINT OF FISHERMEN ?

☐ ST. HUBERT
☐ ST. ANDREW
☐ ST. BERNARD

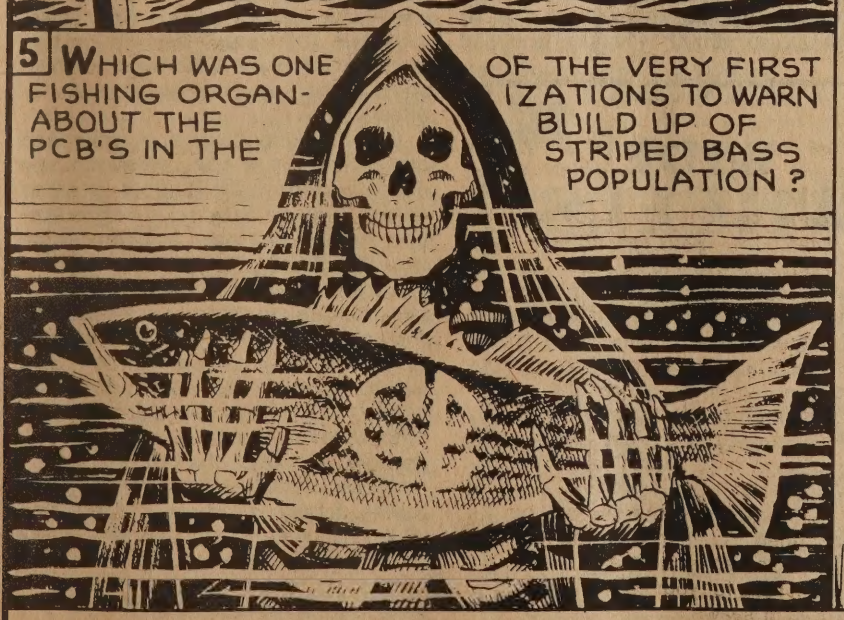
3 THE FRESHWATER BLACK BASS IS A SUNFISH AND THE BRACKISH WATER WHITE PERCH IS A BASS.

☐ TRUE
☐ FALSE

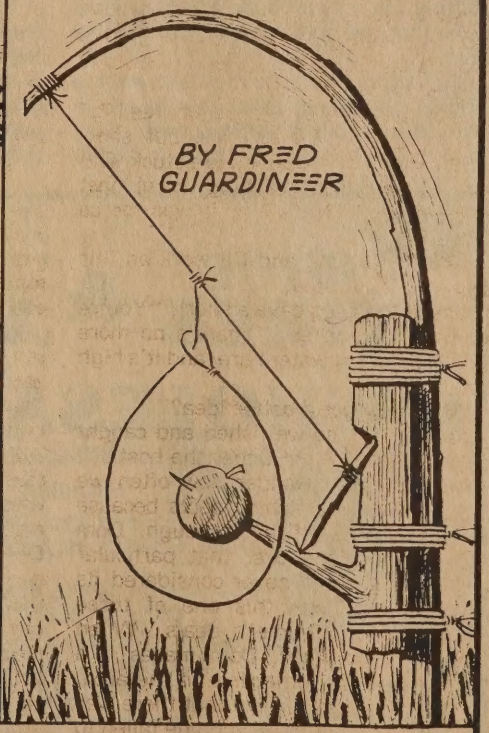


4 SMALL CRAFT WARNINGS DENOTE WINDS OF UP TO ☐ 78 MPH ☐ 38 MPH OR ☐ 58 MPH.

5 WHICH WAS ONE OF THE VERY FIRST FISHING ORGANIZATIONS TO WARN ABOUT THE BUILD UP OF PCB'S IN THE STRIPED BASS POPULATION ?



6 WHAT IS THIS WOODSMAN INSTRUMENT FOR SURVIVAL IN THE WILD ?



1 - BY ADDING 31 TONS OF SALT TO EVERY 285,000 GALLONS OF FRESH WATER. 2 - SAINT ANDREW. SAINTS HUBERT AND BERNARD WATCH OVER HUNTERS AND SKIERS RESPECTIVELY. 3 - TRUE. 4 - 38 MPH. 5 - THE STRIPED BASS FUND OF MASSACHUSETTS IN 1971. 6 - A BAITED SNARE.

THE BOTTOM LINE

with Scott Simons

The Science of Fluke Fishing Part VI

This week we are going to discuss two relatively unknown fishing methods for taking fluke: chumming and trolling. Both can be extremely effective when executed under the proper conditions, but both require that the angler has the ability to recognize and adapt to the prevalent fishing conditions.

The technique of chumming for fluke is virgin territory as far as fishing goes, so there is plenty of room for those innovative anglers that like to experiment and perfect new fishing techniques for their own self-satisfaction. The first thing an angler must recognize is WHEN to chum. If the population of baitfish in an area suddenly diminishes for one reason or another, the fluke that populate the area are forced to spread out, leaving their preferred bottom formations, and must forage for their food. It is at these times that the angler must make an effort to gather the fish up by chumming if he is to put fluke in any quantity in the box. At these times the fluke are usually spread out over a wide expanse of relatively flat bottom, so drifting will only produce that occasional fluke that the boat happens to stumble over.

The theory of chumming itself is quite simple: tiny bits of food are released in the water to travel down-current away from the anchored boat. When the scent of the food reaches a foraging fluke, he will travel up-current to follow it to its source and eventually reach your baited hook. There are three methods of feeding the chum into the current: the first method is a weighted chum pot loaded with goodies that is lowered to the bottom. This method is most effective when used in depths of ten feet of water or more. Frozen blocks of chum are either placed in a wire meshed chum pot or a plastic meshed orange or onion bag and lowered to the bottom, where it slowly thaws and feeds bits of food and juices into the current.

The second method of chumming is to mix ground up chum with sea water in a large bucket to form a thin broth or soup. Using a small tin can nailed to the end of a stick or a soup ladle, the soupy chum is ladled into the water at regular intervals to form a steady unbroken slick. This method may also be used in combination with the chum pot in depths of 10 feet or more to insure that chum is reaching all levels, but it is primarily a shallow water method of chumming for fluke.

The third and final method of chumming for fluke is the practice of feeding chunks of baitfish or whole baitfish themselves into the current. This method may be used in either deep water of 10 to 20 feet with a slow or moderate current or in shallow water of five to ten feet with a moderate or fast current. But care should be taken not to over chum with this method, because you can easily keep the fish so well fed that they won't have any incentive to swim up-current to find the source of the free food, where your baited hook lies in waiting. Chunking is particularly effective on the larger sizes of fluke.

What do you use for chum? Ground bunker is preferred, but even frozen clam bellies will do the trick. One aspect of chumming that is often lost to the average angler is the fact that the chum will also gather up a wide variety of baitfish that will in turn attract the foraging fluke. So even though the clam is not a primary (or even secondary) party of the fluke's diet, it can nevertheless be effective because of the baitfish it will attract. Squid can also be used as an effective chum for fluke, but it takes a little preparation. Place about a half a pound of squid into a blender with about a half a glass of water and start the blender on the slowest speed. When the squid is chopped up pretty good (about 15 seconds with my wife's blender), stop it, add more water and then use a higher speed until the squid mixes with the water to combine to a slimy, grayish-purple disgusting looking sludge. Pour the mess into a quart waxed milk container and freeze. One three-pound box of squid makes quart-sized blocks of chum, which is both economical and effective.

The chunking method of chumming can become expensive unless you save up left over baitfish from previous fishing trips or attempt to obtain your own supply. Although baitfish may be caught in the simple bait traps that have a funnel at each end, they just won't supply the quantity necessary for chumming. So your best bet is to use a two man seine, which can be turned into a fun family outing. Just about any baitfish taken with the seine may be used, sandeels, spearing, killies, sand or grass shrimp, even the tiny crabs.

Where to chum is largely a matter of having a good knowledge of the area where you are fishing. Try chumming up-current of a slope that has produced fish in the past, on the sides or in front of other bottom formations or surrounding flats. Rigging-up is the simplest part of chumming. When fishing in shallow water, just tie a small beak hook directly to your line, add a small split shot or two a foot or so above the hook to discourage

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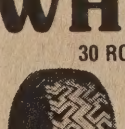

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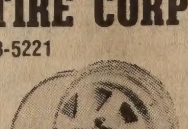

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the bait from rising to the surface and out of the feeding zone of the fluke. Then attach a small plastic or cork float above the baited hook at a distance that it is approximately the same as the depth of the water. For chumming in deeper water, use the standard one-hook rig, but attach the snell of the hook to the leader a foot higher than normal. In either case, "walk" the rig back in the chum slick until it is about a hundred feet or so behind the boat, then slowly retrieve it back to the boat and repeat the process.

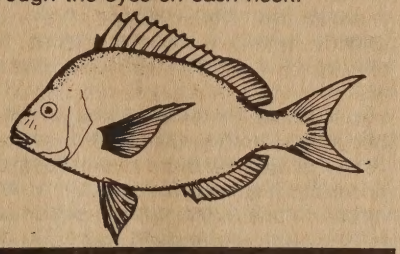
Under some condition, trolling is the most effective method there is for taking fluke in quantity. When the wind and current conditions combine to produce poor drifting conditions such as too fast, too slow or in the wrong direction against the current, trolling is often the only method of presenting a bait to the fluke in a manner that will entice them to feed. The one limitation of trolling is that it is not effective in depths of over 20 to 25 feet because it becomes too difficult to keep your rig within the feeding zone of the fluke. Other than this, success is only limited by the anglers ability to "read" an area and correctly judge the direction and speed of the trolling pattern.

The primary purpose of trolling for fluke is to move the bait in a natural direction (down-current) and speed (the same as or slightly faster than the moving current) that cannot be obtained otherwise. Good formations to troll around for fluke are numerous: along the edges of shoals or sand bars built up around the mouth and neck of an inlet (Shinnecock, Moriches, Jones), along drop-offs close to a sandy shore, the edges of a channel and even a shallow trough or hole close to a shoreline or island.

After you have located a potentially good bottom formation for fluke that you wish to troll around, the next step is to decide what direction the trolling pattern is going to take. There is one primary rule that covers this: NEVER TROLL UP-CURRENT. The reason you are trolling in the first place is usually that the drift is moving in the disastrous up-current direction, so why repeat the sin when you troll? Your best bet is to make a slight zig-zag pattern over the bottom formation so that you cover a wide area and the rig remains close to the bottom.

Unusual as it may seem, the best boat and motor combo is a small skiff with a little kicker or engine up to 25 h.p. These small rigs have plenty of maneuverability and can be throttled down to an almost stand-still without stalling. I have found that some of the larger outboards, such as the 115 h.p. Johnson I had last year, had a tendency to be fast for trolling many times. If you have a large engine and run into this problem, try the "jolt-and-pause" technique. Put the engine in gear, wait until the lines straighten out behind the boat, then pull the engine in neutral and let the boat coast for a minute. When the lines start to slack, give the engine another jolt and keep repeating.

Make sure that you let out enough line behind the boat so that your rig will stay on the bottom. After the sinker hits the bottom when you let out your line while the boat is running at trolling speed, continue to let out line until it is at an angle of about sixty degrees as it enters the water. The best rig to use is the simple one-hook rig with a tandem hook with a few small sand eels hooked through the eyes on each hook.



ADVANCED BLUEFISHING

(Continued from page 19.)

object trying to get away from him and will grab at it before it escapes. In order to get the jig moving through the water quickly, a high speed reel is needed. The Penn 500 Jigmaster has a 4:1 ratio and is well suited for this type of fishing.

Once the boat is positioned, the jig is lowered all the way to the bottom. As soon as the bottom is felt, the reel is engaged, and the jig is reeled completely and rapidly to the surface. Hopefully somewhere along the line, a blue will hit the jig. The process is repeated until the level of feeding fish is found. This technique is called squidding.

Jigging is somewhat similar, except that the jig isn't really brought all the way to the top. The jig is lowered to a certain depth and the reel is engaged. You then rapidly lower and raise the rod tip giving the jig its action. It's tiring work, but at times quite productive once the level of feeding fish can be found.

One of the latest innovations as far as jigging or squidding goes is the arrival of the Green Banana. This colorful surge tube lure has been very productive along the Jersey Coast and South Shore bluefish grounds. The lure is cast out away from the boat, and allowed to settle down to the bottom. It is then slowly retrieved to the surface. What this is supposed to imitate, I don't know, but the blues like them. Another good squidding lure to come out recently is the Lupo Silver Bullet. It weighs around 2 or 3 ounces and imitates an anchovy.

Some say that casting and squidding for blues is the most sporting way to catch them, and that may be true. I'll say that it is the cleanest and least messy way of catching them.

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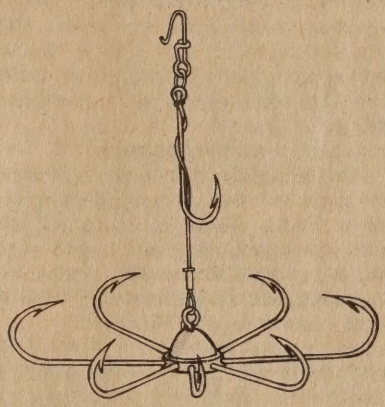

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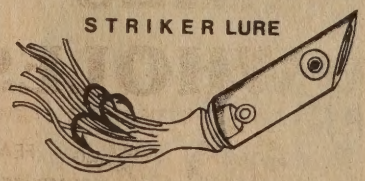

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Surf Side with Fred Schwab

Summer Baitfishing Along Montauk's North Side

Part II

The first installment described the area to be fished (see sketch, Part I, previous issue), and contained some general advice. We'll now discuss tackle, bait, tides, and other factors which could increase your chances of taking fish along this beach.

But first, some advice which bears repeating; the chances of taking a decent fish are much better in the area west of Rocky Point, Also, regardless of what spot you select, beware of large rocks situated within the limits of your cast and anticipate the possibility of needing some room to play a strong fish.

With respect to gear; a 10½ to 12 foot rod with some backbone is adequate. Those 13½' sticks are unnecessary as long casts, while on occasion desirable, are not absolutely essential and a "high" surf is not a problem here. Spinning tackle is just fine but if you insist on fishing in the rockier spots, sturdy conventional gear is better. Conventional equipment permits the angler to effectively cast with heavier-test line, thus allowing him to fish with a tighter drag thereby increasing his chances of successfully "turning" a strong bass and literally horsing him out of the rocks. However, the majority of today's anglers use spinning gear, so that's what we'll talk about.

In this area, my preference is for 20 pound test Andy monofilament line. This strength gives me added confidence and withstands the abrasion from rocks far more than lighter tests, yet still permits reasonably long casts. Incidentally, of the monofilament lines that I've tried, Ande has performed the best for me.

Waders are not needed for this fishing. However, it might be necessary to wade into the wash in order to properly beach a fish, therefore the wearing of a pair of boots is recommended.

Concerning terminal tackle, using a fish-finder for the sinker connection is advised. There are nights when the bass will strike the bait with authority and start a run before the startled angler can pull the rod from his sand spike. On the other hand, and these occasions seem more numerous, the bass will fool around with the bait, seeming to mouth it very gingerly or repeatedly pick it up and drop it. It is on these nights that the fish-finder rig can make the difference. Apparently it is the drag of the sinker, when the bait is picked-up, which discourages the fish from really taking hold.

There are other frustrating nights when the fish are just acting downright weird, perhaps due to the type of bait that they are feeding upon in the area, or for some other reason which we humans don't understand (reasons which contribute towards making fishing the interesting and challenging sport that it is). On such occasions they'll nip the loose ends of the bait, stopping just short of the hook, or strike violently, run towards the beach and when the angler reels in the slack line to set the hook, the fish is gone. These are the nights that fishermen mumble to themselves and consider trading their fishing gear for a set of golf clubs! When the fish are "nipping" those loose ends, try bunching the bait on the hook.

Use a bank sinker, of which 3 ounces is usually sufficient. A heavy, or even moderate surf is a rarity and strong currents are nonexistant. Pyramid sinkers will result in repeated hang-ups and lost rigs. Ideal for this area is an elongated, flat or cigar-shaped sinker. If you can't find them in a store, try making your own.

A short shanked 3/0 Eagle Claw (with or without a bait-saver), is ideal, but carry some sturdy 4 and 5/0's along. Having a few long shanked hooks in the larger sizes is also suggested. You might decide to try chunk-bait, or there may be some bluefish in the area. Incidentally, when I'm using bait to catch bass, I do not use anything smaller than 3/0's in the belief that the smaller the hook the greater chances are of a fish swallowing it and decreasing the liklihood of survival should it be released. Also, I'm hoping for big fish, if I miss the smaller one's because the hook is too large, so be it!

The hook should be attached to a three or four foot mono leader with something

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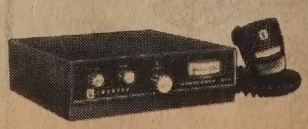

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in the neighborhood of 45 pound test being a good choice. To finish off your terminal tackle, a cork is a must. Otherwise you'll lose plenty of bait to the crabs, and catch more skates and dogfish than you care to; all are abundant in this area. Some fellows like to paint their corks with a bright color such as, white or yellow, believing that the bright color attracts fish to the bait. While I do not color mine, I can't argue with this reasoning. There are just too many stories told along the beaches of outstanding catches by fellows using colored corks while others who had none, did poorly.

While I'm sure that other baits, if and or when tried, will catch bass in this area Sandworms are the way to go and commonly used by the regulars. Aside from the fact that they do catch bass and along this beach are a natural part of the stripers diet, there are other reasons for this baits popularity; reasons which boil down to questions of economy and availability.

While this costly bait is not stocked by most east end bait shops, or at least at the more popular and convenient ones, it is readily obtainable at several locations along the northside of Montauk. To get them, you'll need a pointed shovel, a strong back and a fishermen's patience. Digging for worms can be a challenge, "of sorts." Some days it's possible to get several dozen large specimens with relatively little effort, conversly, there are times when it becomes a back breaking chore just to find a few of "runt" size.

Sandworms are found below the high water mark and digging is best at low tide. Look for a clay bottom or an area with a composition of sand and heavy sedimentation. As the best areas to dig are in among the rocks and stones you will simplify the task by removing some of the smaller ones. Work the shovel in, to the depth of the blade and loosen by working it back and forth, try getting a large shovel load each time. After you lift the shovel, carefully go through the material as more often than not the worms will not be visible. If you have no luck after several minutes of effort, try another spot a few feet in either direction along the beach or further out in the water. You may be digging in an area which was recently dug by someone else, or which simply isn't a good spot.

When using sandworms, bait the hook liberally. If the worms are large one may be enough, if of small or medium size use two or three. I prefer threading the worm on the hook, that is, run the hook and leader through the worm, leaving a short length dangling free.

At night, and one or two hours before high water to roughly three hours down, is the best time for bottom fishing here, at least that's been my experience.

For bottom fishing, weather, wind and moon phases do not appear to be extremely critical factors at this location. However, a strong northerly wind is not desirable, and a few days either side of the full moon may have an edge over very dark or bright sunshine. But this fishing is really a hit and miss proposition and it's my belief that a successful night of bait fishing along this beach is simply a question of whether or not bass are present and feeding in the particular spot you have chosen, rather than some meteorological conditions being "THE" factors, which they so often are at many locations.

When reeling in to routinely check the bait, do so slowly. After a half dozen or so "easy" turns of the reel handle, hesitate for a moment or two. By following this procedure the movement of the bait may attract the attention of a passing fish, or bass may be feeding relatively close to the beach and well within your normal casting distance. If you do hit a fish in-close, shorten up on your next cast. This advice is applicable to most locations when bottom fishing.

Continuing on this thought, etched in the minds of a good many anglers is the classic picture of a school of striped bass breaking water and darting about in hot pursuit of their intended meal. On the contrary, when bass are browsing on the bottom, they usually do so at a leisurely pace since they are hunting for tidbits scattered about and usually, half-hidden. They're looking for an easy meal, trying to satisfy their appetites with a minimum expenditure of energy and are apt to wander back and forth along a beach at varying distances from shore... until they find something to their liking.

In closing, when fishing this or any beach, behave in a sportsmanlike manner. Respect the rights of others, don't litter and if you operate a beach vehicle, drive slowly and intelligently. Gently release short bass and all fish which you do not intend to put to good use, including the less desirable species. In my book, there is no such thing as a "trash" fish, they all have a purpose in the grand scheme of things and anyone who needlessly destroys some poor hungry creature tricked into taking a bait or a lure, is no sportsman. I've seen fishermen who absolutely refuse to release a dogfish or skate, destroying it and seeming to derive pleasure from the act. The only conclusion that I can draw from such behavior is, that their intelligence level is mighty low.

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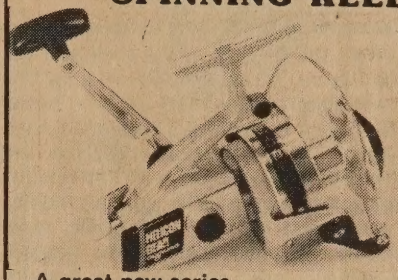

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REFLECTIONS: with Mark Sosin

On Chumming

When the fish are in the slick and the action is torrid, bluefish chumming has to rank as one of the most exciting forms of fishing in the world. There are times, however, when skippers describe the activity as a "slow pick" and that's when it takes every bit of skill you can muster to get these toothy gluttons to even consider a natural bait. Some anglers consistently catch more fish in a chum slick than others and it is obvious that they have developed a delicate touch. Short of that, however, there are a number of tips that can make a difference in the results.

The trick to fishing a chum slick is simply to rig your bait and swim it in such a manner that it drifts off at the same rate as the free floating chum. If your offering is above or below the bulk of the ground up menhaden, it might pass the fish unnoticed. Remember that the diameter of the line you use and the size of the hook coupled with the portion of bait you cut will affect the sink rate. As a general rule, the lighter the line you fish and the smaller the hook and bait, the closer to the slick it will swim.

Obviously, unless you fish alone, you must demonstrate consideration for the other anglers with you and the test line you finally select should be predicated by your own skill and the conditions under which you must pursue the sport. On a crowded party packet, for example, you would have to use a heavier line than on a charter craft where the group was smaller and more congenial.

Trying to convince a dedicated bluefisherman that he can do better without a 6/0 or 7/0 long shanked hook, wire heavy enough to hand a coat on, and line that is better suited to giant bluefins is an almost hopeless task. In their eyes, you are immediately suspect for even suggesting that they modify the davit and winch arrangement that they use to unceremoniously crank a chopper or slammer to boatside.

For some reason, anglers remain set in their ways and resist change instead of welcoming it. If you don't fall into this category and are willing to experiment, try these suggestions. Use a lighter line. If you lay back on a fish and really put the pressure on, you can do wonders with 15 pound test line and even better with 20 pound test (in the fighting department). That diameter line will float away much better than 30 or 50 pound test.

With the lighter line, you can use a shorter shank hook and a smaller size. Sometimes you may want to go as small as 1/0 or even 1 or 2 (yes, they make salt water hooks that small), but for the most part, you can do well with a 3/0 or 4/0 hook. The hook should certainly be matched to the size of the bait you select and that will be covered in a moment.

Everybody uses wire for bluefish, because even a fool knows that they have a set of dentures like a baby piranha. On the other hand, they can be finicky feeders and wire can discourage bluefish. As a compromise, try rigging with just three inches of very light wire attached to a regular shank hook. Use heavier mono leader attached to the wire. If you can't join the two, use a very small swivel (preferably dull finish or black) for the connection. Fifty or sixty pound test mono is an excellent choice.

There will be times when you can barely buy a fish. That's when you want to pull out all stops, because you have nothing to lose until you get a strike. Take off all the wire and use a mono leader directly to the hook. Sometimes the fish will chop through the mono, but you'll land more than you suspect and get many more strikes than most anglers on board and they'll never know why. Keep a bunch of loose hooks in your pocket and tie a new one on if you lose the fish. Should you land your quarry, check the leader carefully and re-tie the hook before fishing again.

Choose your bait carefully. A piece of bunker back or butterfish that has baked in the sun is hardly a suitable morsel for a blue that has been feeding on fresh chum. Always take the freshest bait you can find and, if you have a strike, don't leave it there. Bring the bait in after a minute or two and change it. Bait is cheap compared to other facets of the trip and it can make all the difference.

Some experts believe in sweetening a chum slick with butterfish, killies, spearing or some other goodie that is different from the ground up bait. That, too, can spell a difference and it's worth a try. You might also take pains to cut the bait you use neatly. My own preference is toward smaller pieces which I carefully impale on an equally small hook. Some experts argue that a bluefish is going to hit the biggest bait it can find and that may be true, but I do well enough on the smaller bits to be convinced that that technique also

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works, especially when the big bait theory falls flat.

Whether you do your own chumming or fish aboard someone else's boat, the chum should be as fresh as possible. It takes a continuous slick to keep bluefish in the area and they will quickly abandon your efforts if you let time pass between ladles. A good rhythm is to watch the chum disappear and just as it is about to move out of view, ladle some more. Even if all hands are fighting fish and no one can spare a second, someone must bail over a little more chum. Otherwise, by the time the cockpit is back to normal, you may have to look for the fish.

The basic technique of fishing with chum is to permit your bait to float away at a natural pace. If you remember nothing more, keep this in mind. The fisherman who insists on swimming his bait out fifty feet and then locking the reel may catch a fish now and then, but he'll do better if you keeps the bait moving.

It takes practice and a feel to pick up the correct speed. As a start, strip off about five or six rod lengths of line and let it fall in the water. Keep the reel in free spool with your thumb on it or the bail open if you are using spinning tackle. Watch your line carefully for two reasons: it tells you when you have to strip in more and it signals a strike before you feel it.

Just before the line in front of you floats away, strip in some more and keep doing it. If you wait until the line comes tight before stripping, you are actually stopping your bait momentarily and causing it to raise up. Strip more and more line until you figure you're fishing under the next boat. Sometimes, you may have to pay out 100 feet of line or more until the fish come closer to the boat. If nothing happens, reel in, check your bait carefully and start again.

If you become a line watcher; you'll see the strike. The line will start to tighten faster than the natural flow or it will move sideways or toward you. No matter what happens, when the rate of line movement changes, engage the reel, and point the rod directly at the line. When it comes tight and you feel a fish, set the hook sharply with a series of upward jabs.

The standard boat rod has always been a short affair, but you'll discover that you'll hook more fish and be able to handle them better if you use a longer rod. You would be amazed what a 7½ or 8 footer can do on a party boat, for example. There is enough length to gude a fish past other anglers or hold your rod high so someone else can move his fish underneath. At the same time, when you rear back to set a hook, you can move the line.

Bluefishing is always great sport, but it's a lot more fun when you catch fish. Try some of these methods. They may help your next trip to be a memorable one.

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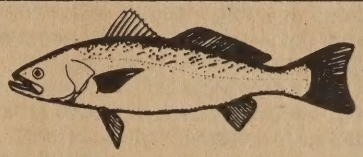

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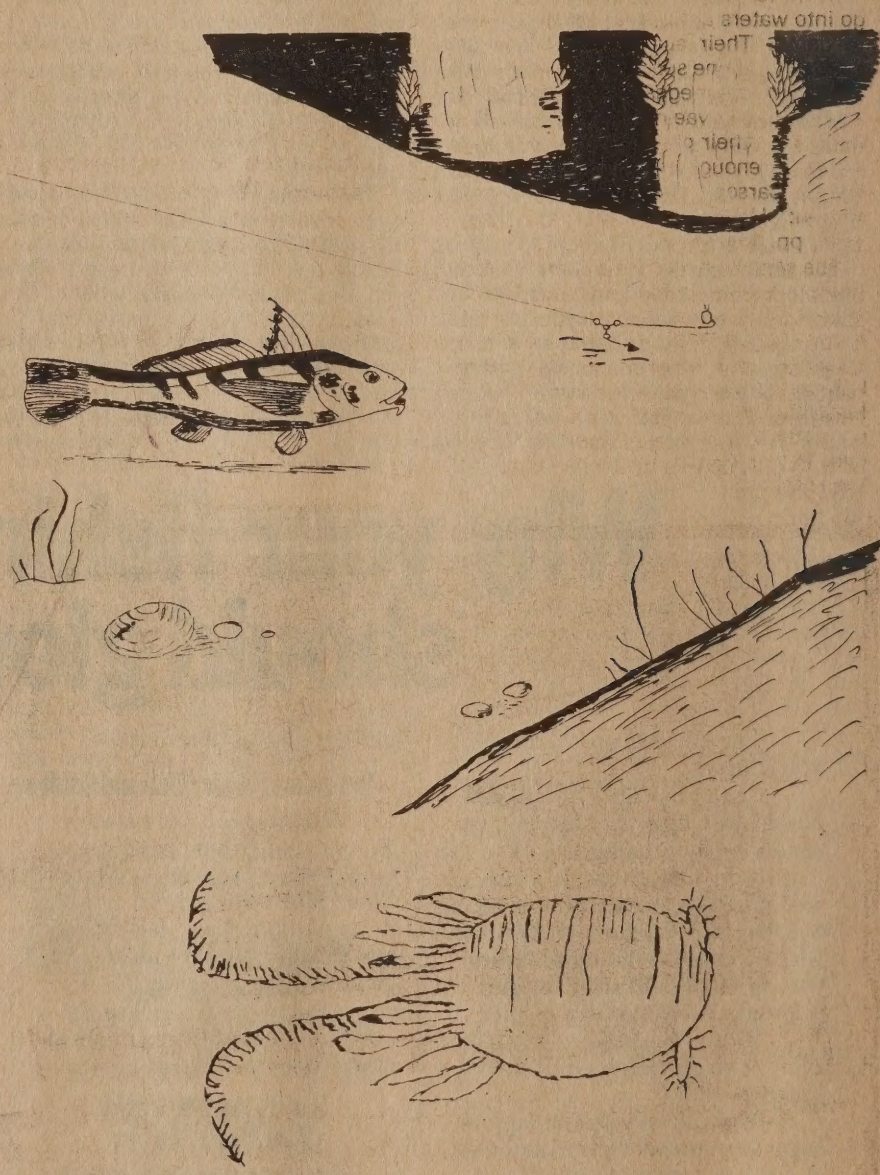
NATURAL BAITS—
Fishing The Mole Crab

by Frank Berrafato



One sunny July afternoon in the early 1960's my friend and I were fishing from a rock jetty off Lido Beach for kingfish. We were casting to a hole in front of a group of wooden pilings about 50 yards from the shoreline, and just about every cast brought in a scrappy kingfish.

In time, we ran out of the bloodworm bait, which had proven to be so effective, and we tried some of the small sand mole crabs which were so plentiful on the beach. The sand mole crab, or hippa crab as he is sometimes known (after the scientific Latin name, **Hippa talpoida**), proved to be an equally effective bait on the kingfish, and ever since that day the mole crab has been added to my list of effective natural baits.

The surfcaster should be aware of the mole crab, and its potential as a fish attractor. This particular crab is easy to obtain (he won't try to grab at your fingers), if you are in the right spot—preferably a sandy sloping beach. They can be gathered by standing in the backwash of a receding wave and picking them up with your hands before they bury themselves in the sand.

More elaborate equipment is available for those who want to capture the crabs in quantity. A wire scoop equipped with prongs can be dragged up the beach with great efficiency. Mole crabs can be kept alive for quite a while in a can of damp sand.

The mole crab measures one half to one inch in length, and is easily recognized by its grayish or light tan body and the smooth rounded back. Like most of the small creaturs which live on the shoreline, mole crabs are incredibly swift-moving. They have well developed legs, with hair or "sensory" bristles attached to them. (See illustration 1.) Their appendages are flattened and pawlike and their eyes small and beady—practically useless. They rely on the sense of touch (sensory hairs) instead of sight.

The mole crab is an important link in the sea's ecological balance. He feeds on the tiny micro organisms in the surf, capturing these minute animals and even bacteria by means of his sensory hair bristles. Very proficient in rapid and constant digging mole crabs exploit the pounding surf and changing sand for the abundant food supplies carried by the waves.

When the mole crab is ready to feed, he backs down into the wet sand leaving only the mouth parts and the antennae (sensory hairs) exposed. When the receding wave has thinned to a depth of about an inch or two, the crab extends its antennae into the swift current. After gathering his food, he draws the antennae to the appendages surrounding

the mouth (see illustration 1), picking off the tiny, captured micro organisms.

As an important member of the shore community, the mole crab has been the object of study by many marine biologists, including the late Rachel Carson. In her book, The Edge of the Sea, the activities of the mole crab are closely scrutinized. Among other things, a curious display of group behavior was noticed when the crabs were feeding. When one crab thrusts up its antennae, all the others of the colony promptly follow its example.

In winter, it was found that the crabs go into waters at least a fathom or more in depth. Their span of life is short, consisting of one summer, a winter, and a summer. Their eggs are orange colored and the tiny larvae may be carried many miles from their place of birth until they are large enough to come ashore. (See Rachel Carson, The Edge of the Sea, Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1955, pp. 134-136.)

The sand mole is the target of winged predators from above and finned predators from the sea. Each incoming tide brings such fish as striped bass, weakfish and kingfish to the sandy habitant of the crab mole. Many times a large blue crab will dart out to seize one, or perhaps a wise surfcaster will bend over to pick up this valuable creature of the seashore.

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HARBOR LIGHTS

Part Two

by Dr. William A. Muller

If part I could be called "The Lure of Harbor Fishing and the Pain of Preparation," then this week's installment is the "Joy of Catching Recalcitrant Bluefish."

In spite of the early showing of the blues nothing happened as the first piece of the sun edged over the horizon. Apparently so many boats were gathered among the moorings that the blues became shy and headed out to less congested waters. Only an occasional fish was taken so we cranked up the engine intent on fishing elsewhere. We caught up to the fish in Lloyd's Harbor, a western extension of Huntington Harbor. I was the first to connect and when my fish changed direction and charged across the harbor I was glad that there weren't any other boats around to cut my line. The first fish had well over 75 yards of my line stretched across the length of the harbor and had almost stripped me of the 10 pound test mono. Either the fish was truly huge or it was side-hooked. While I battled my fish, Richie got into another good fish and he held on courageously as the blue tore up the surface. Then it was his dad's turn. The three of us were fighting these big bruisers simultaneously. Rich put rod in a holder and loosened the drag in order to help gaff his son's fish. After the first assist Richie had to gaff his own fish and the second blue ran away from the boat and eluded the gaff.

I was now convinced that my fish was side-hooked, since I couldn't budge it more than a few inches at a time. Each member of the crew caught a couple of blues while I fooled around with my problem. Rich was all smiles, proud of the professional way his son had handled the big fish.

The action lasted for over an hour but we had to move occasionally in order to keep up with the blues as they followed the ever moving bunker. The boat fishermen must exercise care each time he picks up in order not to spook the blues. The boat technique requires patience but in the long run is far more productive. Actually never drop the anchor unless it is so windy that you are blown off the school too quickly. Maneuver the boat up-wind off the school slowly (use low rpm's) then shut off the engine and allow the wind to push the craft toward the baitfish. Never, I repeat, never run around at high speeds. Look for signs of the feeding predators and bait, estimate the direction and speed of their movement and then try to set up your drift so that you can intercept them after you have shut down the engine.

It is astonishing that the big blues simply will not rise to a plug, swat at a tin, or clamp down on a tube lure when they set their sites on those "horse bunker."

Dozens of boats cluster in Huntington Harbor trying to fool big blues with 1 oily bunker.

Several lads cooperate to land the first bluefish of the new day.

Yet, within the pattern of attacks on the bunker there are many variations. It is impossible to judge how many blues are in the area passed upon the intensity of the activity. Many anglers are too intent upon locating surface busting fish and they forget that the behavior of the bunker schools are a "dead give away" to the unseen behavior of the blues below.

When the fish are spread out and gently slapping at the surface, you can bet that the bluefish are far away. But when the bunker are jammed tightly together, a phenomena known as "bailing the bait" the predators are not far away. Frequently, if a snagged menhaden is lowered to the bottom at the edge of a tight school of baitfish, the blues will be found hungry and eager. However, when the blues are setting up surface commotion your bait will more likely be attacked if you keep it near the surface.

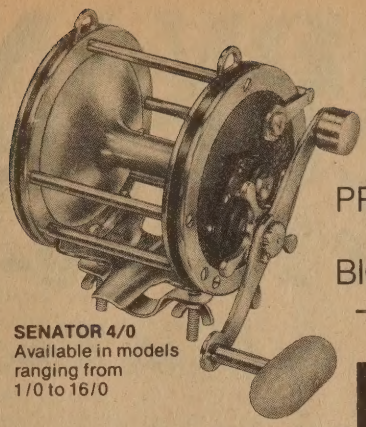
At times the blues become lazy and will accept only bunker chunks or dead whole bunker. Next time you're out keep an eye on the local sharpies if the fishing is slow.

They experiment a lot. They will usually begin the fishing with live bunker, but they'll switch to chunks or dead bait if there are no hook ups. If the signs indicate that the blues are around they will be persistent. These experts will ply the middle of the school, the edge and the bottom and top and even a few hide-a-ways that look about as fishy as grapefruit but which hold bluefish.

The ideal situation with plenty of blues and bunker into their act at the surface occurs all too frequently but when it does you'll lose a small fortune in tackle and have the best light tackle fishing of your life.

It happened to me last June. Rich and I were drifting quietly in Lloyd Harbor at the "witching" hour of first light. It was so quiet that even the flip of a spearing was audible at a distance. Suddenly, we both sprung to our feet. "Swush, swush, swush." The sound was distant but unmistakable. Rich fired up the 135 h.p. Johnson and aimed the rig toward head of the harbor. As we closed in on the sound, the action became visible. An acre of bluefish chewing up ten acres of bunker.

The snagging tree flew out over the water. One, two, three, "got one." But I hadn't cranked that bunker more then ten feet before a bluefish took a vicious chunk out of the bait and one of the big treble hooks found a home in the roof of the mouth of a twelve pound blue. Rich was likewise occupied. But the snagging trees are not designed for catching bluefish. They are awkward conglomerations and they twist and tangle too easy when a blue pounds and jumps for freedom. "Pop, pop," the rigs and blues were lost.



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"Single weighted trebles with an 18 inch wire leader should do it, Bill." Rich's suggestion made sense, but the first thing I snagged was a fourteen pound bluefish—right behind the head. Do you have any idea how long it takes to bring a blue of that size to gaff when it is side hooked and the angler is using 10 pound test line? Well if you have never had the pleasure, I can tell you the answer—about twenty minutes!

The action lasted about an hour and a half and we could have sunk the boat with slammer blues if we had a mind to, but the the fish that we kept were very impressive.

When the sun bore high in the sky, the fish vanished and we headed home. So it happens each summer's day. From the waters of Port Washington, where F. Scott Fitzgerald wrote The Great Gatsby, to the picturesque harbors east of Port Jefferson. The blues eat the bunker and the fishermen catch the blues.

ADVANCED BLUEFISHING

Part Three- Casting

by Capt. Ron Onorato

There is nothing quite as exciting as watching a 10 or 15 pound fish pounce on a popping plug with a surface smashing leap. The long, powerful run that follows and the occasional jumps on the surface all add up to quite a bit of fun. These topwater acrobatics of the surface feeding blue make it a prime target of light tackle casters. Casting to these surface feeding bluefish is perhaps the most enjoyable way of catching them.

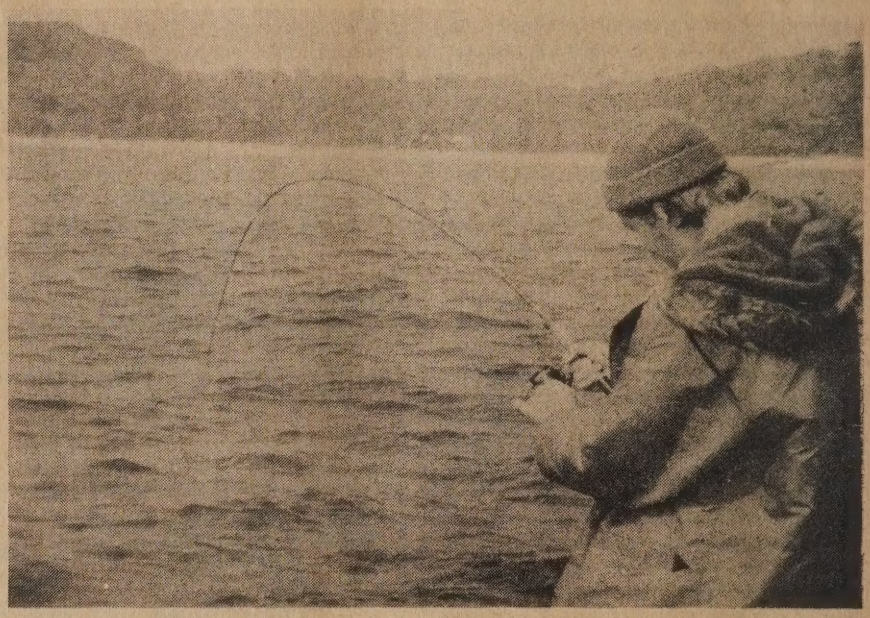
The movement of the blues pretty much follows that of the bait supply that they feed on. As the schools of spearing, anchovies, mackerel and bunkers move up and down the coast, the blues do the same. The blues will not linger too long in an area where there is a scarce bait supply.

Much of the time, the bait is up near the surface of the water, and the blues aren't far behind. This is the time for a crack at the surface feeding fish. The fish become very excited when they are feeding heavily, and they become less selective in the type of lure they will hit.

You can vary the casting selection for these fish quite a bit. For the small "tailor blue" in the 2 to 4 pound range, a light six foot, six pound outfit will be suitable. This same light outfit can also be used for the big slammers that are sometimes encountered. Certain conditions will dictate what outfit is best suited for casting to the fish.

The size and type of the bait that the blues are feeding on will give you an idea on what may be the best lures to use. The old idea of match the hatch comes into play. For example, if the blues are feeding on 3 or 4 inch spearing, a small silvery lure such as the Hopkins or Kastmaster would be suitable. If the fish are feeding on a larger bait like baby bunkers, a large wobbler or spoon would be most appropriate. If the blues appear to be feeding on mid size baits such as anchovies or sand eels, then such lures as the Lupo Silver bullet of Baitfish in blue work well. Popping plugs and swimming plugs such as the Rebel and Danny plug also work well.

Tackle selection is usually based on the size of the lures that you will be using as well as the size of the fish



Big blue gives quite a workout on light spinning outfit.

George Oliver shows school bass and bluefish taken on diamond jigs at Montauk.

running. For example, light lures in the ½ to 1 ounce range will be best suited when used with a light spinning or baitcasting outfit in the 6 pound range. Lures heavier than the 2 ounce range will necessitate the use of somewhat more substantial outfits. Regardless of whether you prefer spinning outfits or baitcasting rigs, which incidentally are growing in popularity, there is no need to go much heavier than 15 pound line. the heavier the line, the more difficult it is to cast the lure.

Because of the relatively light lines, drag settings will be kept on the loose side at all times. When you're using 6 or 8 pound line, and the fish are running closer to 10 pounds, you will be donating a lot of lures to the fish if the drag is kept too tight.

The most tension placed on a line occurs at the moment that the fish hits the lure. For this reason, the drag should be set so that the line comes off the spool easily, but there is enough pressure to set the hook fairly decently. The drag can then be added or diminished as the fight progresses. After a while, fish will tire, and provided all the knots hold up, will soon be landed. With good quality mono, fish in excess of 15 pounds have commonly been taken on such gossamer thread as 6 pound test. Having a smoothly operating drag is the key to success. Any jerky, uneven flow of line off the spool should be avoided and corrected as soon as possible.

Because of their dental work, some sort of wire leader is a must. I like to use 20 pound steelon leaders with a snap on one end and a swivel on the other end. The plastic coated wire is flexible and this is important because stiff wire has a tendency to kink up and this will weaken the line. The leader should be around 6 inches in length. Longer leaders aren't really necessary and at times will tend to spook the fish, as will a heavier diameter wire leader.

If there is one thing that can not be emphasized enough, it is the proper approach to a school of surface feeding fish. I don't know how many times I have seen schools of fish disrupted by unknowing or unconcerned fishermen. The proper approach is the silent approach to the school.

Once a school of fish is spotted, pull the boat upwind of the fish or ahead of the direction in which the fish are moving. Once within a hundred feet of the fish, shut off the motors. The boat will then drift into the fish or the fish will come to the boat. In either case, the fish will be within casting range.

Do not at any time run into the school of fish with the motors running. All this accomplishes is the scattering of the fish with no chance for anyone.

I have personally fished a school of surface feeding fish for over an hour with 4 other boats that knew how to do it. On the other hand, there were times when just a single boat messed up the parade. When the blues are shaky, cooperation is a must so that all can enjoy the sport.

Mornings are prime times just after dawn, as are the evenings around dusk for topwater activity. The all day blitzes come in late September and carry through much of October. The fish tend to stay deep during the heat of the day.

There are times when blues don't show up on top at all, but can be coaxed into hitting a popping plug or big swimmer. This casting is similar to casting for bass, whereby you will be working the plug carefully. Usually the blues, when in a feeding frenzy, snatch anything that is within range. Other times when not really actively feeding, will be selective in hitting a plug.

The rocky points that dot the north shore of Long Island are bluefish plugging areas. When bait is scarce, the blues come into the shallow water to find such forage as bergalls, blacks and even crabs that dwell in the rocky regions. If blind casting for blues, try to avoid the wire leader. You may lose a plug or two, but will usually get more attention as these shallow water blues are sometimes cagey.

Diamond Jigging and Squidding: There is nothing quite as frustrating as watching a school of blues pop up for just a second or so, and then head down the minute you're within casting range. As a result of this situation, and also because of the dislike by some fishermen for wire line trolling, diamond jigging and squidding came about.

When the fish are deep, too deep for wire, and moving fairly quickly nothing cuts through the depths like the diamond. This silvery piece of metal accounts for a great number of fish that don't normally fall to the other methods.

The diamond jig is a chromed piece of lead with a treble hook on one end and varies in weights between 1 and 16 ounces. Upon buying a diamond jig, the first thing that must be done is the disposing of the treble hook. The treble hook is virtually impossible to remove from the chopping jaws of the blue. I will usually take an open eye 6/0 O'Shaugnessey and replace the treble hook with it. I'll attach the hook to the jig by a large split ring. A 100 lb. test black barrel swivel goes between the split ring and open eye of the hook.

For the average jigging needs along the South Shore or up in the Sound, a 3 or 4 ounce jig is good. Out at Montauk where there are hefty tides and the water depth may range to 100 feet, 6 or 8 ounce jigs are best.

The idea of jigging or squidding, is to just give the fish a quick glance at the shiny piece of metal as it rushes through the water. All the fish sees is a shiny

(Continued on page 9.)

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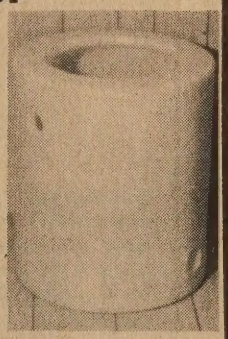

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RIGGING BALAO

by Peter Frederiksen

Photo #1: Use a haywire twist to connect the hook to the leader, but leave a portion of the tag end extended upwards. Don't break it off as if you were fashioning a regular hook and leader connection! You'll need this nub to go thru the bait's mouth later on. Next, wrap a strand of the cooper wire either to the eye of the hook or onto the loop of the haywire connection.

Balao (pronounced, bally-hoo) is a prime tropical baitfish for marlin, tuna, dolphin, false albacore and bluefish. Simple practice makes rigging a cinch, and every angler who ventures offshore should know how to work with balao baits.

In addition to being a productive trolling bait, balao also makes exceptional chunk bait for chumming tuna and bluefish.

To start, you'll need a package of balao, stainless steel wire leader material, plus a wisp of soft chopper wire (available at the tackle shops which stock balao) and the necessary hooks. Hook size will vary according to the dimensions of the bait. The balao in the photos is approximately 8'' long and the hook is a Mustad O'Shaughnessy forged needle eye 8/0.

While this is an accepted method for rigging balao, there are many variations. Some anglers poke out the eyes of the balao and run the cooper wire thru the hole and then around the bill. Others utilize Jap feathers or Hoochie-Trolls which cushion the head of the bait and help it to last longer. And some anglers prefer to fish the bait plain.

Another version is to use a rubber band in lieu of cooper wire to keep the mouth closed. (If the mouth of the balao opens, it's likely to spin which detracts from the natural lure and action of the bait.) Merely fasten one loop of the elastic band to the extended tag end. Wrap the mouth snugly and loop it on the end again.

Leaders can vary also. I like to use 12' to 15' of #9 stainless steel wire, but I've also rigged balao on foot-long sections of #9 backed up with a heavy mono leader. This latter method is especially effective when you intend to release your catch.

Balao bought in New Jersey generally are frozen, but don't try to rig it when it's stiff. They will defrost rapidly in a pail of sea water. Keep the baits chilled once they're limber, though avoid soaking them in ice water.

Another good practice is to clean out the stomach cavity before rigging up by pressing your thumb along the underside of the bait towards the anal vent. This short step eliminates the possibility of the innards oozing out where the hook exits which could upset the bait's action in the water.

When the balao is skipping along in the wake, it's doing fine. If it spins, you might be trolling too fast or have the bait rigged improperly. Recheck your bait and the speed and try again.

Good fishing!

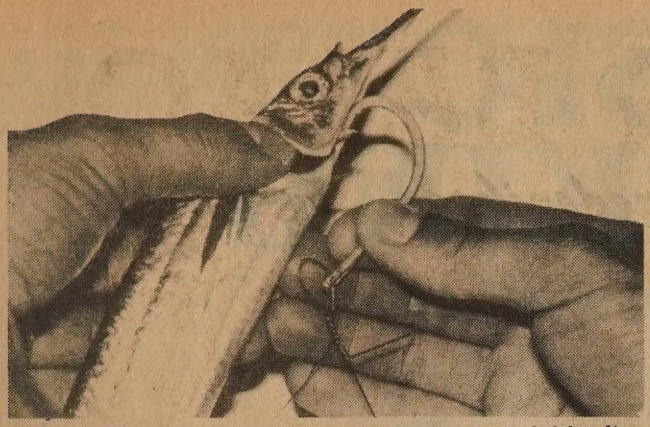


Photo #2: Insert the hook under the gill plate and drive it thru into the stomach cavity.

Photo #5: Pass the end of the soft copper wire thru the eyes and wrap the mouth shut, a couple of turns behind the nub and a few turns in front of it. Incidentally, the nub needn't be as large as in the photos. It's slightly exaggerated to make the point clear. In practice, the end need only be long enough to secure both jaws and provide a stop for the copper wire.

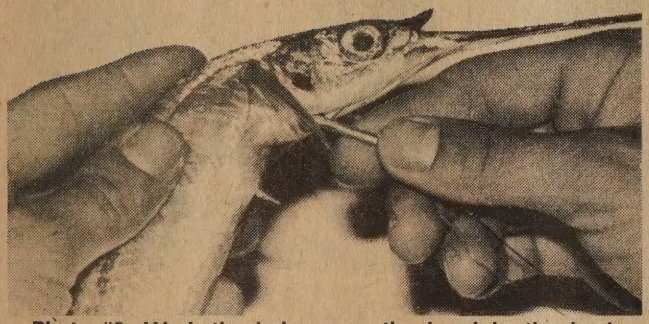


Photo #3: Work the balao over the bend in the hook GENTLY, so as not to tear the bait.

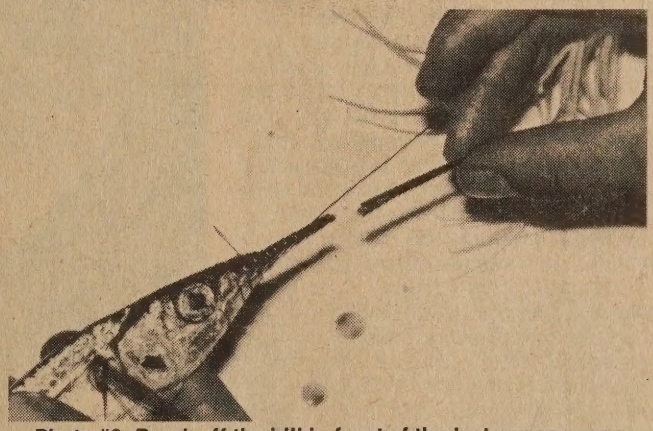


Photo #6: Break off the bill in front of the last copper wrap and the bait's ready for the water.

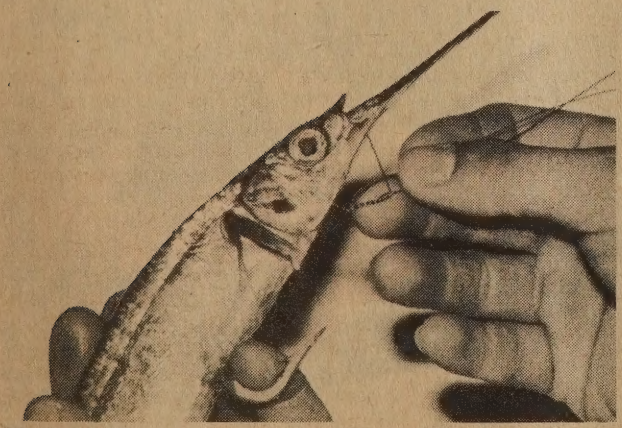


Photo #4: When the hook is in place, push the nub of the haywire twist thru the lower and upper jaws of the bait. The loop and twist will fit nicely under the gill cover.

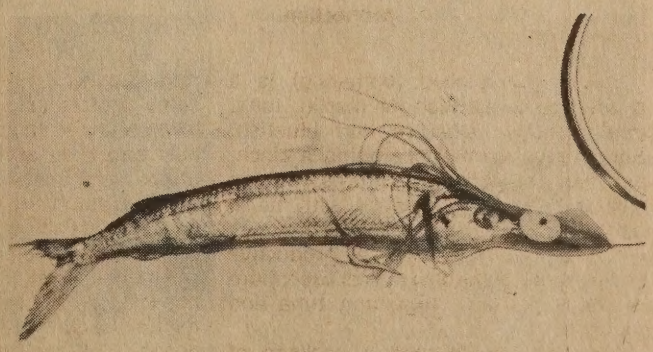


Photo #7: Finished bait with a plastic squid.

BASIC SHARKING

Part I

by Al Ristori

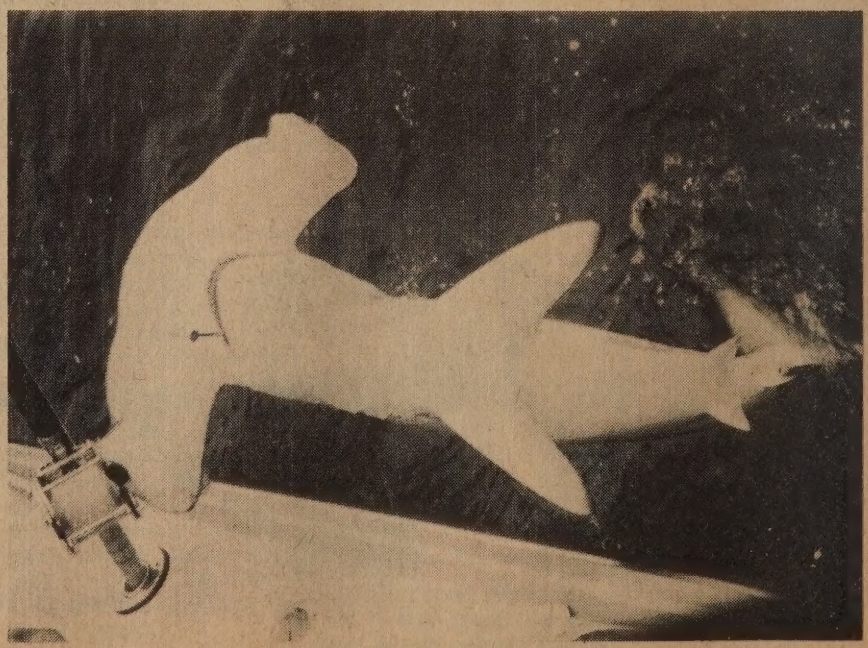
Capt. Frank Mundus really started something when he brought his booth of shark jaws and photos to the New York Sportsmans Show many years ago. Frank was building up a successful business for himself, but at the same time, also developed a fascination with sharking that has permeated the Long Island sportfishing scene. Though sharks are far more abundant in tropical waters, they are generally looked down on as "fish stealers" and relatively few anglers pursue them for sport. In other northerly areas, the sport of shark fishing is just beginning to catch on. Even in neighboring New Jersey, shark fishing is just starting to become popular, whereas Long Islanders have held big tournaments for over a decade.

Without a doubt, the movie "Jaws" (despite its gross distortions) did much to popularize shark fishing. Last year, charter boats that rarely had a call for sharking before were inundated with requests. A recent issue of Long Island Fisherman carried ads for 16 boats that were soliciting such charters. Indeed, there is no better way of getting started in the sport than chartering your first trip. Everything you read here will make a lot more sense if you actually see it done by experts. This is particularly the case with handling sharks next to the boat. If you've no experience in this sort of thing, it's best to watch a pro in action and avoid a mistake that could be your last one!

Various species of sharks are available in our offshore waters from June through October—even somewhat earlier and later if you want to push a point. However, they seem to be most abundant in western Long Island waters from mid-June through mid-July and in eastern waters from late-June through August. Fall fishing at Montauk used to be very good, but in recent years sharks seem to have abandoned the usual grounds at that time and are found in abundance only well offshore. Nevertheless, whether spotty or thick, sharks are the most consistent of our gamefish and "skunkings" are rare unless the weather is either very windy or worse yet, slick calm.

I refer to the shark as the "poor mans big game fish" because almost anyone with a seaworthy boat can fish sharks without making a big investment in tackle or spending a fortune in bait. Given decent weather conditions, boats of 18 feet or more should be able to fish

Al prepares to steak out a catch that will make good eating



A hammer head swings before being released to fight again.

offshore, provided that they're equipped with compass, radio, and all required safety equipment. Some specialized gear is required, but most boats of that size probably have the basics already.

Tackle is one area in which the fisherman has great discretion. Especially in small boats, 4/0 reels are quite sufficient for 99% of the sharks you're likely to encounter. If you don't have 4/0's and still want to try the sport before sinking a lot of money into it, don't hesitate to use smaller conventional reels or even big spinners. The key to using lighter tackle is to stick with light enough line that you have at least 200 yards of capacity. If you're a skillful angler and exercise patience, almost every shark hooked can be boated with such tackle. The biggest mistake newcomers to the sport usually make is to load up with tackle heavy enough to stop "Jaws" himself. Then they find that almost all of the sharks encountered in our area are under 200 pounds and no match for tackle intended for giant tuna. Most charter boats use 6/0 gear (or even heavier) in order to make up for mistakes of tyros and enable even the most unskilled to sit in a chair and reel in a tiny blue shark "through the guides". If you're fishing for fun, there's no reason to use tackle that's even uncomfortable to handle standing up.

Forget the "Jaws" syndrome when it comes to terminal tackle also. Those huge hooks with the chain leaders are fine as decorations but unless you're trying to catch a thousand pound shark by stopping him cold with a hawser tied to a dock, they're of no use to you. The size of the hook required will vary with the size of your bait. If you rig as I do (with bunker fillets), large hooks aren't necessary. I use hooks in the 7/0 to 9/0 class, but in double or triple strength. Ordinary hooks of that size can be easily straightened and are a particular problem when the fish is being wired. On the other hand, if you're surrounded by small blue sharks which you'll be releasing in any case, why waste good hooks on them? Bait the small sharks you can see with ordinary hooks and small baits, but keep your good hooks on any line out of sight, as you never know when a mako might sneak in.

Number 12 wire is probably the best all around selection. Lighter wire will usually work, but spinning sharks tend to kink supple wire and it can be a problem at boatside. However, in the case of very fussy sharks, you may have to drop down a size or two. An important point to remember in connection with your wire is that the haywire twist must be made carefully or it will pull down and snap, particularly when heavy tackle is employed. Especially in the case of light tackle, great care must be taken in rigging all terminal gear. A 15 foot Bimini Twist to form your double line is a must. The double will enable you to put a lot of extra pressure on the shark at boatside and also makes up for any sloppiness in tying your knot to the heavy snap swivel. Sharks frequently roll up in the leader wire with the result that their abrasive hides come into contact with your line. The two strands in the double provide you with an extra safety margin in this instance.

While you can get away with a great variety of rods and reels, don't spare your wallet when loading up with terminal tackle. Most sharks should be released and, therefore, hooks and wire leaders are expendable. I generally start out with a 12 foot leader and clip the sharks on the same wire by twisting on new hooks. If the wire is less than eight feet or badly twisted, discard it and start from scratch. I usually have time to make up several complete leaders during the time it takes us to establish a good chum slick. If you're at the right place at the right time, action can be hot and heavy and it's no time to run out of terminal tackle or have to sit down and start rigging!

The following is a check list of other items you won't want to forget: Fisherman's pliers(with wire cutter.); Fisherman's gloves; Floatation material (styrofoam, balloons, etc.); Rubber bands (to attach floatation to line); Rob belts; Shoulder harness (if using reels with harness lugs); Ladle (or other means of dispensing bunker chum); Flying gaff; Straight gaff; Tagging stick and tags; Box full of hooks, heavy snap swivels and wire; Tail ropes; Rod holders (if not incorporated in boat); Bait knives; Extra buckets (for water to wash hands in and for watering down chum); Rags; and Bait board.

In almost every case it's advisable to have spares. That's certainly the case with pliers, gloves and rod belts. Doubles and triples aren't uncommon in sharking and you don't want to be in the position of fighting over a rod belt. On the other hand, shoulder harnesses are rarely required and you can get by with one of that rather expensive item.

The flying gaff is probably most practical when it comes to sharks. All sharks tend to twist when gaffed an can easily pull a straight gaff from your hands. If you do use a straight gaff, make it the eight foot tuna model and aim for the gills—then hold on for dear life! An ordinary four foot gaff, such as you'd use for striped bass, is handy for lifting the tail of the shark (after he's subdued) in order to apply the tail rope. Larger craft can also use a meat hook for lifting the shark up on the gin pole.

Next we'll get into the techniques involved and the species of sharks we're dealing with in local waters.

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SEA GRANT ADVISORY SERVICE BULLETIN

SHARK

Produced by the Delaware Sea Grant Advisory Service

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Approximately 62 species of sharks inhabit the eastern waters of North America. Many are oceanic and roam the high seas, while others live close to the bottom. The majority stay in comparatively shallow water. Sharks that are commonly caught in the estuarine and inshore areas along the mid-Atlantic coast are usually three to seven feet in length and under 1,000 pounds, although larger ones do exist.

Fishing for sharks was a tremendous sport in some areas along the mid-Atlantic coast until about 15 years ago. Delaware Bay, around the Lewes area in particular, was formerly known all over the country for its excellent shark fishing. The decrease of menhaden populations during the period 1955-66, however, contributed to depletion of a shark food source, and thus a decline in the shark population of that area.

Commercial shark fishing used to be a booming business in the U.S. (especially along the east coast) because the shark was a good source of Vitamin A – oil from the shark liver yields the natural vitamin. But a synthetic form of Vitamin A was discovered, and the demand for both natural Vitamin A and sharks diminished. Shark skin (shagreen) was formerly used by cabinetmakers throughout the world for polishing wood, because the tooth-like projections on the skin of many sharks are so sharp and so closely spaced that the skins make effective abrasives. However, synthetic abrasives have almost entirely replaced shark skin.

Today, shark hide is used commercially for leather, the fins are used in oriental food dishes and the teeth are quite popular in jewelry-making. Shark meat is also cut into cubes and salted for use as crab bait.

Americans do not widely regard the shark as a food fish. However, more and more folks are discovering what several countries of the world already know – that shark meat ranks alongside swordfish in texture and flavor. As the leading producer among European shark fisheries, Norway exports frozen dogfish shark to several European countries and to Great Britain, where it often turns up as the fish in "fish and chips." In Japan, the gelatinous fins are used to make shark fin soup, a great delicacy, and the meat is served as a main dish. Mexicans on the Yucatan Peninsula often dine on young shark filets and steaks.

One of the oldest creatures on earth, the shark has changed very little in the 300 million or so years that he has been swimming the ocean waters. As a member of the cartilaginous family of the fish kingdom, the shark doesn't have a bony skeleton like most fish that are caught by sport fishermen. The flexible cartilage which forms the shark's frame is less than adept when it comes to supporting the weight of the internal organs when the shark is out of water. Even after a few minutes, the shark will suffer fatal injury and shock. Another peculiarity with sharks is that they must swim continuously to stay afloat because they don't have the air-filled swim bladder that other fish have. Most top-swimming species must also stay on the move to obtain enough oxygen to keep alive.

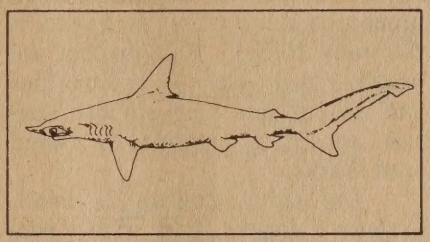
Although it can't live out of water and its general body configuration is that of a fish, a shark sometimes resembles a mammal, especially in its method of reproduction. Some sharks lay eggs, whereas others produce living young. The larger species produce young, fully-formed miniatures of the parents. These larger sharks may produce anywhere from two to 50 offspring during a gestation period. But a mother shark has no love for her children – she doesn't feed them or attempt to protect them. And, if the young sharks aren't careful, they may even get eaten by their parents. Fortunately, the young are born equipped with a full set of teeth and are able to swim, so they have more than a fighting chance.

Although no significant tests have been made of the shark's capacity for learning, many recognized experts acknowledge that the intelligence of sharks is low. Their indifference to injury is well-known, but their sense of smell is very keen – large sharks have an amazing ability to scent a comparatively small object from a considerable distance.

In one respect, the shark has a kinship with the lowly crab – both have been termed "nature's vacuum cleaner." Anyone who goes crabbing knows that the crab will take almost anything for bait. So too, the shark – but he goes after bigger trash than the crab can even hope to swallow. Soft drink bottles, tin cans, magazines, old clothes, anchors, boat propellers, chum pots, lead sinkers and logs have been found in shark stomachs.

Most shark species are either too small, too sluggish, too weakly armed, or normally live at too great a depth to be of any potential danger to humans. However, notable among dangerous species are the White Shark, the Tiger Shark, the Lemon Shark and the larger Hammerheads, which are seldom found in mid-Atlantic waters. Of those listed, the White Shark is considered the most dangerous, but fortunately, even the smaller sizes of this species appear not to be common anywhere, while the larger adults are seldom seen, especially close inshore. In any case, humans are not the habitual prey of any shark. The majority feed on fishes smaller than themselves and on squid.

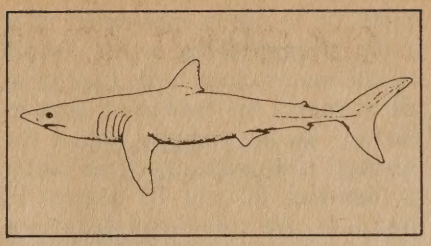
Six types of shark visit the Atlantic coastal area regularly: the common hammerhead, the Atlantic mako, the sand shark, the smooth dogfish, the spiny dogfish, and the sand bar shark. Four of these are excellent sharks for eating.



THE COMMON HAMMERHEAD SHARK *(Sphyrna zygaena)* is a familiar sight for fishermen along the coast during the summer. It is one of the largest sharks in the Delaware/Chesapeake Bay area. Very few are actually seen in bays – they prefer to stay in the open ocean. Most hammerheads taken are small, ranging from two to four feet long. A few bigger ones (six to 16 feet) are also taken.

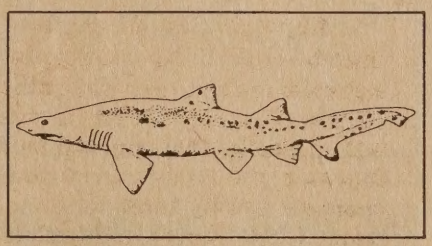
You would recognize a hammerhead right away if you were shark fishing – it is one of the strangest-looking animals in the water. Peculiar projections have developed on either side of its head, giving it the appearance of being a flat hammer (hence the name). The eyes and nostrils are located on the ends of these projections.

Not much is known about the food value of the hammerhead, but during the days of heavy commercial shark fishing, hammerheads were in demand for use as leather, fish meal and liver oil. If one is hooked it is usually shot when close to the boat or the line is cut after a good fight (releasing the shark). Hammerheads are not terrific fighters but if on a slow trolling day, one of these is hooked, it certainly affords some activity and breaks the monotony of trolling.



THE ATLANTIC MAKO SHARK *(Isurus oxyrinchus)* is probably one of the largest, commonly seen sharks in the western Atlantic, and one of the best to eat. Most makos caught in Delaware are above six feet in length, sometimes eight to 10 feet. The largest was recorded at 12 feet two inches and 1061 pounds. Very little is known of its diet other than that it prefers fish, often preying on schools of small fish. Makos are not considered man-eaters or especially dangerous to people, but they should command respect at all times.

Within the last few years, the Atlantic Mako or sharp-nosed mackerel shark, has had its name added to the International Gamefishes Association list of sport fish because of the tremendous leaps and runs that this shark displays when hooked.

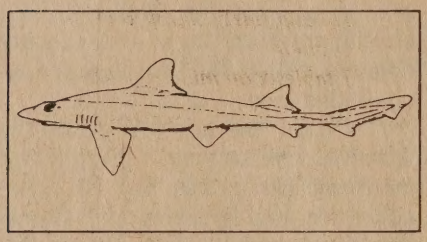


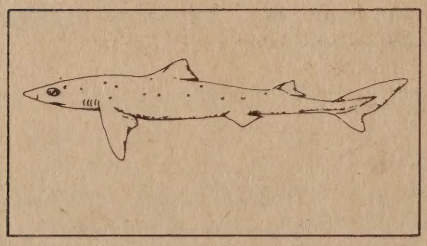
THE SAND SHARK *(Carcharias taurus)* is one visitor to the area that likes to spend time in the bays. In fact, the bigger ones are usually caught in the upper parts of bays. The Delaware Bay to Cape Cod stretch is the northern sector of the sand shark's American range. South of Delaware Bay, sand sharks are not reported in as great numbers.

Many people confuse this shark with the small smooth dogfish that is so abundant. But there is no mistaking a sand shark – it has a mouth full of teeth designed to send chills right through you. Even though the sand shark has this ferocious set of

teeth, it is not a man-eater. It is rather sluggish, living on the bottom of the sea or close to it. Like most other sharks the sand shark appears mainly in the summer, when the surface temperature of the water is between 60 and 70 degrees F, and it is not considered dangerous to swimmers. It is usually found only in the deeper waters.

Most of these sharks are four to six feet in length and weigh not more than 150 pounds. However, some have been caught that weigh more than 200 pounds. Both the small and large ones are edible, although the sand shark is not considered one of the better quality meats.





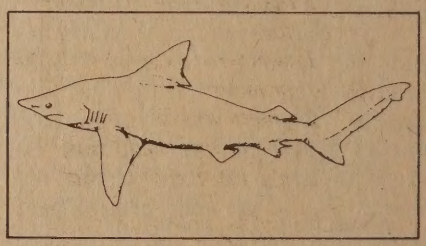
THE SMOOTH DOGFISH AND THE SPINY DOGFISH (Mustelus canis and *Squalus acanthias)* are the two most abundant sharks along the east coast, and one or the other is almost always present. Neither contains dangerous teeth (compared to other sharks). Instead, both dogfish contain many low, flat, pavement-like teeth that crush and grind more than they actually bite. The smooth dogfish is in northern mid-Atlantic waters in the summer months from about April to November, when they return southward. The spiny dogfish stays north from November to April when the water cools, and goes south during the summer.

The smooth dogfish grows to a length of three to four feet and its diet consists chiefly of lobster, crabs, small fish, razor clams and small hard clams – almost anything that is good to eat. It generally inhabits the shallow waters in the Delaware Bay area, and because it is abundant during the summer months, more smooth dogfish are caught there than all the other sharks together. Along southern New England and on the mid-Atlantic coast, the smooth dogfish is the second most numerous shark (most numerous is the spiny dogfish). Because they are usually caught close to the beaches and around sand bars, smooth dogfish are often erroneously called sand sharks.

The spiny dogfish, a small, harmless, slender shark with a flattened head and snout tapering to a blunt tip, is about nine to 13 inches when born and grows to a length of about four feet. An average spiny dogfish is 30 to 36 inches and seven to 10 pounds. Its streamlined body is slate-colored with rows of small white dots on the side. The spiny dogfish resembles the smooth dogfish somewhat except for the two sharp spines in front of the dorsal fins. The spines are formed from material much like that of our teeth and are used defensively as the dogfish curls around in a bow to strike an enemy. It is very probable that the spines are slightly poisonous. On these spines are growth zones that indicate the age of the dogfish, and surprisingly, some have been found that are 25 to 30 years old!

The spiny dogfish is not seen very often in the winter because it spends most of its time in the deeper waters offshore. However, anyone who has ever cod-fished in the mid-Atlantic region is well aware of the spiny dogfish – it is all over the water and seems to take any bait offered, but it is neither a swift swimmer nor very active, putting up little resistance when hooked. It has been considered a veritable pest by both commercial and sport fishermen because it has no great value on the local market. Food habit studies have shown that it feeds mostly on herring and herring-like fish, "trash fish," squid, shrimp, crabs and also on comb jellyfish. However, fishermen have long accused dogfish schools, which sometimes number in the thousands, of intruding on the populations of valuable food fishes such as salmon, haddock, cod and mackerel. From a practical aspect the spiny dogfish is important because it is probably more destructive to gear and interferes more with fishing operations than does any other fish.

However, you can turn the tables on the spiny dogfish – instead of thinking of it as a nuisance, think of it as a food source. In the U.S. and Canada, as contrasted to Europe, the dogfish has always been an industrial fish – processed into oil and meal. But fresh dogfish can be delicious. A real delicacy, the filets are bone-free and white, with a flaky texture and firmness similar to haddock. The flavor is very mild and there is no odor other than that associated with any fresh fish.



THE SAND BAR SHARK (Carcharhinus milberti) is not plentiful, but it may be found in mid-Atlantic waters from May to September (the Delaware Bay/Chesapeake Bay area is apparently a mid-point in its migration to southern wintering and northern summering grounds). Also known as the brown shark, it reaches about six feet in length and has one row (top and bottom) of triangular-shaped, serrated teeth that are razor sharp. It is a very firm-fleshed animal and when prepared, the meat is delicious. But because there are so few of them, sand bar shark meat isn't available commercially.

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RECIPES FOR SHARK

OVEN-FRIED SHARK

2 pounds fresh shark filets
1/2 cup rich milk
1 cup dry bread crumbs
1/8 teaspoon basil
1/3 cup melted butter or margarine
1/2 teaspoon salt
dash pepper
2 tablespoons chopped parsley

Wipe filets with damp cloth. Pour milk into small mixing bowl. Add salt, pepper and basil. Stir well. Dip each filet in seasoned milk, then in bread crumbs. Arrange in buttered shallow baking dish and pour melted butter on fish. Bake at 350 to 375 degrees 30 minutes. Serves 6.

BLUE FIN LATINO

3 pounds shark filets
oil
3 medium onions, sliced thin
1 1-pound 14-ounce can tomatoes
1 sweet red pepper, sliced thin or minced
2 tablespoons oil
2 tablespoons lemon juice
1 tablespoon chili powder

Sear fish on both sides in hot oil. Remove to a well oiled baking pan. Spread thin slices of onion on fish and pour canned tomatoes over top. Mix red pepper, oil, lemon juice and chili powder and sprinkle over top of fish. Bake at 350 degrees 30 minutes. Makes 8 servings.

SHARK MARSEILLAISE

2 pounds fresh Sand Shark filets
1 onion, minced
1 tablespoon chopped parsley
1 clove garlic, minced
1/2 cup dry Sauterne wine
3 firm tomatoes, diced
3 tablespoons cooking oil
salt and pepper

Wipe filets with damp cloth. Pour oil in oven proof dish, place over medium flame. Add onion, parsley, garlic, tomatoes, salt and pepper to taste. Place filets carefully over top of vegetables. Cover and bring to boil. Lower flame. Simmer for 15 minutes. Add wine and bring to boil. Transfer dish to 350 degree oven. Bake 10 minutes or until fish flakes easily with fork. Carefully remove fish from sauce using large spatula. Arrange filets on preheated platter. Keep warm. Strain sauce through fine sieve and heat to boiling. Sauce should be reduced by this time. Pour hot sauce over filets and serve.

POACHED SHARK REMOULADE

shark filets
sliced onion, optional
water
2 tablespoons lemon juice
2 tablespoons tarragon vinegar
2 tablespoons prepared mustard
2 tablespoons horseradish
1 tablespoon parsley
1 teaspoon paprika
1/4 teaspoon cayenne
1 cup oil
1/4 cup finely chopped celery
1/4 cup finely chopped green onion
1 tablespoon minced capers

Place shark filets in deep baking pan. Top with onion slices, if desired. Add water until pan is half full. Bake at 400 degrees 45 minutes. Serve with Remoulade Sauce. To make Sauce, mix lemon juice, vinegar, mustard, horseradish, parsley, paprika and cayenne. Beat in oil, then add celery, green onion and capers.

The National Sea Grant Program, created by Congress in 1966, works through universities, industries, and governments to meet the goal of wise management of the nation's ocean and coastal resources. The Sea Grant concept includes research, education, and advisory services, the channel through which research results may be directly applied by people who use marine resources for business or pleasure.

Based in the College of Marine Studies at the University of Delaware, Delaware's Advisory Service works closely with marine resource users to help them get the most out of their relationship with the sea. Sports fishermen, commercial fishermen, vacationers, coastal industry representatives, and coastal property owners – these are some of the people Delaware advisory specialists talk with every day.

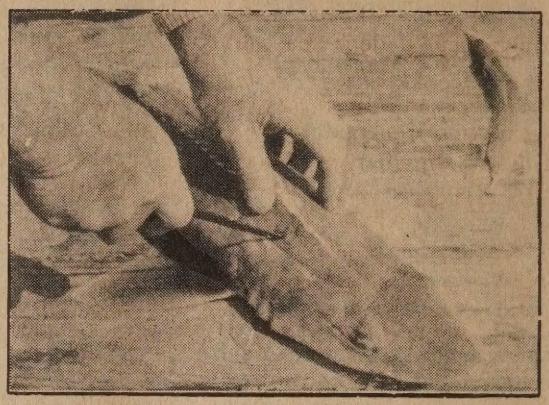
To help them in their work, the specialists can draw upon the full resources of the College of Marine Studies, a graduate professional school where programs of study are offered in six different areas: marine geology marine biology, physical oceanography, chemical oceanography, ocean engineering, and marine affairs.

In addition to the Sea Grant program, funded through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in the U.S. Department of Commerce, the College conducts research programs with the National Science Foundation, Office of Naval Research, Environmental Protection Agency, NASA, and several state government agencies.

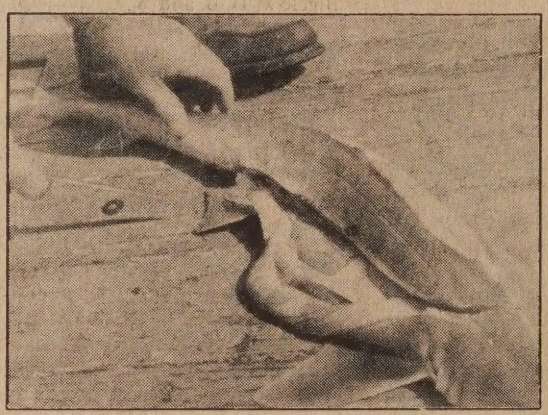
Research projects currently underway include: a search for food plants that could grow in soil irrigated with seawater; growing clams and oysters to market size in a closed, recirculating seawater system; chemistry of municipal and industrial waste disposal at sea; geological history, shoreline rates of change, and bottom morphology of Delaware Bay; beach erosion and protection for the Delaware coast; prediction of oil slick movements; mapping wetland vegetation in Delaware; and many others.

HANDLING AND CLEANING

A. With a sharp knife and grasping shark by the tail, belly side down, cut along top side from above tail to back of head. Turn the shark over and repeat the process on belly side (as illustrated).



B. Holding shark belly side down, make cuts perpendicular to first cut on both sides of head, as shown.



C. After the two cuts in back of head, shark is now ready for skinning.

D. Grasping the skin in back of head, and using a sharp knife, remove skin.

E. After skinning, roll shark over so that belly side is up. Pull head and viscera, still attached, from body cavity and cut off tail.

F. In final stage, shark is gutted and skinned, head and tail have been removed. Shark should now be washed throughly, removing as much blood as possible, iced down, and cleaned well at dock or at home. Shark may then be filleted or steaked.

Now that you're ready to go out shark fishing, how do you know if you have the right equipment? What you need is a 35 to 40 foot vessel with enough cleared deck space to handle gear and bulky shark carcasses. A typical shark fishing vessel has a longline winch located forward or amidship, a weatherproof deck with self-bailing scuppers and a boom with block tackle for hoisting the sharks aboard.

For large shark fishing (300 pounds and over) take along this equipment:

- a 9/0 Penn reel or equivalent
- 120 pound test line
- 80 pound IGFA (International Gamefishes Association) rod

If you're going after smaller sharks, here's what to take along:

- a stout 5-6 foot boat pole
- 50 pound test line
- a standard reel (not spinning) capable of handling 200 yards of pound line

For those who like to know the weight of the shark they land, here is a simple method of estimating it: square the girth in inches, multiply that by the length in inches and divide by 800. (Take the length from the tip of the nose to the beginning of the tail, not the tip of the tail.)

All sharks to be used as food should be taken care of immediately. A shark can't just be thrown on ice and cleaned back at the dock like other fish. It should be immobilized (with some sort of club) and gutted immediately. Sharks have as much as 2.0 to 2.5% urea (a nitrogen compound) in their blood. If the blood is not drained immediately from the system, the urea deteriorates into ammonia, which contributes to the pungent shark odor and "dry taste" characteristic of poorly handled shark meat.

After gutting, the shark should be dunked in water to clean and wash out as much blood as possible. Then the shark should be put on ice. When reaching the dock, cut in back of the shark's head all the way around and make a cut from the head to the tail on both the top and the bottom side. Then with a pair of pliers in one hand and the head and tail in the other, it is a simple matter to skin the shark. After this is done, cut the head and tail off, remove the underlying layer of dark meat and cut the shark into filets. Then wash thoroughly and package for freezing or prepare for cooking as with any other fish. To further neutralize any residual ammonia, presoak the shark filets in an acidic solution such as lemon juice, before cooking or freezing.

Shark meat can be prepared much like any other fish – most fish recipes will do wonders for shark. Included here are a few true shark recipes – they've been tested and proven.

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PRESERVING TIPS

The most critical time in the preservation of shark meat quality is after it is taken off the hook or out of the net until it reaches the dock. The only proper way to keep shark fresh and firm during this time is to surround the shark with ice. Place the shark in a container in layers, between layers of ice. Ice is fairly expensive, but considering that it will do more to keep the flavor and firmness of shark than anything else, ice is really a bargain!

There are many ways to preserve shark. Some are very complicated and others are very easy. Listed below are a few tips that are easy, inexpensive and workable: These tips also apply to any kind of fish.

- Always double wrap the shark before freezing. Wrap only enough in one package for a single serving.
- Smoking does not preserve shark – it only enhances the flavor.
- The salt used in brine solution for salting and curing shark should always be non-iodized, such as kosher salt. Never use iodized salt for shark – either the flesh will turn black or the shark will spoil.
- When salting shark in a crock, always make sure that the crock has been glazed on the inside – otherwise the salt will leak through the crock and the shark will spoil. Plastic containers work well for salting shark.
- Before salting shark in a plastic container or crock, soak the shark in a salt brine solution overnight to remove all blood. Remove shark from brine, wash with water, lay flat, and let drain. After a short time (one to two hours), place in a crock, layering with salt. Cover the last layer with about one inch of salt.

MONTAUK REPORT

by Scott Simons

The fishing out here remains at its fantastic proportions of the past two weeks, and the bluefish are now in strong at both the Submarine Buoy and Inner and Outer Cartwright areas. Fluke fishing is now phenomenal, and it's hard to see how it could become any better. For example, Capt. John Sweetman of the charter boat **Ebb Tide** reported that on Saturday a party of five anglers took 182 fluke and eight of the fish were over ten pounds. The ocean is still alive offshore with all the blue sharks you want, brown sharks, makos, swordfish, spooky marlin and even some yellowfin tuna. Capt. Warren Hader's catch aboard the charterboat **Devilfish** on Friday was a good example. The catch for the day was sixteen blue sharks, two brown sharks and a mako of 175 pounds. Coxe's Ledge cod action is now the best it's been in the last five years, according to Lester Behan of the **Peconic Queen III**. Bass fishing has dropped to almost nothing except for the real sharpies like Capt. Frank Braddick of the charterboat **Hurry-Up** that specialize in trolling big plugs at night. Large "humpback" porgies up to 3½ pounds are now in very strong in all the areas between the point and Great Eastern buoy. No reports of tarpon, cobia or bonefish as of yet.

Captain Dick Vigilant of the **Triton II** spent the week trolling out large group charters for fluke and reports "super excellent" results. Everyone catches, and doormats are taken dairly. On Sunday, the pool fish was a 14 pounder, the largest we know of that has come into Montauk to date.

Captain Lester Behan of the **Peconic Queen III** gave us the word that the codfishing in Coxe's Ledge is now "absolutely terrific, the best in five years." On Saturday, Bryon Mylord had 18 cod and his friend Herbir Phillips had 15. On Sunday Herb turned the tables and took 24 cod to Bryon's meager 19. The fish are averaging close to 20 pounds, and you have to boat a 40 or 50 pounder to be in the running for the pool money. Lester said that the Queen is not starting to make night runs for those Monster Montauk Blues not that they are in strong at Cartwright and the Sub Buoy.

Captain Paul Sundberg of the charterboat **Montauk** told us that he took his fourth mako of the year on Sunday. It tipped the scales at 171 pounds and Joey Santoro was on the rod. Blue sharks, all you want and more. A few boats have been taking yellowfin tuna in the 50 lb. class in 40 fathoms of water 35 to 40 miles south of the point. Paul said that there are a lot of white marlin in the area, but as usual they are spooky when they first come in. This weekend should give them enough time to settle down and start hitting those trolled baits.

"We're killing the fluke in the north rips," is the word from Captain Richard Rade of the **Marlin III**. On Saturday the pool fish was eleven pounds and five fish were between 5 and 9 pounds. On Saturday an angler named Marvin was high hook with 37 fluke. Fishing has been hot and heavy all week with a dozen doormats or more a day and very, very few throwbacks.

Captain Brad Glas of the **Helen II** also reported doing a real number on the fluke for the last week in the rips from the North Rips all the way east to Midway. Everyone aboard is taking all the fluke they want and the poolfish is in

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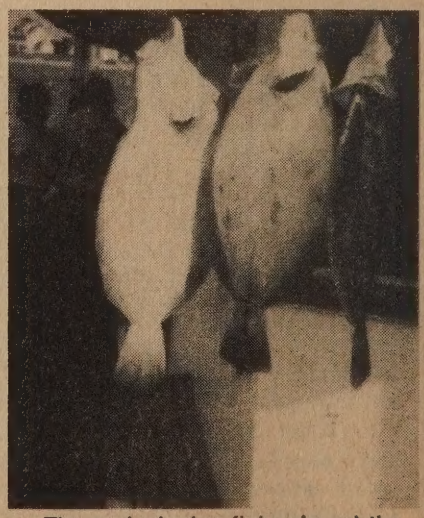

The pool winning fluke aboard the "Marlin III" was a 9½ pounder and second went to a 8½ pounder. The average catch for the day was about 15 to 20 fish a man.

the teens almost every day. Now is the time to hit Montauk if you are really into fluking. Brad's Tip of the Week: When netting a fluke from a party boat, net the fluke, not the guy standing next to you. Don't try to beat up the fluke with the net, either. When the fish is in the net, just lift the fish into the boat with the handle pointing straight up in the air, like you were using a gaff. If you have trouble using a gaff, warn everybody.

Captain John Sweetman of the charterboat **Ebb Tide** had a shot at a big swordfish on Sunday while sharking. They had just started chumming and chunking when a dorsal fin started working its way up the slick to within 30 feet of the boat, then veered off and circled the boat a few times before sounding. John said they tried to bait the broadbill but it just turned up its nose. But the ocean is alive with fish south of the point offshore and many large fish are being broken off. Bluefish are alive now and in good at the Sub Buoy and are off to a good start at Inner and Outer Cartwright. Fluking is unreal...on Saturday a charter of five anglers boated 182 fluke and eight of the fish were over ten pounds. John noted that the darker strips of fluke belly seem to produce the doormat class fluke.

Captain Warren Hader of the charterboat **Devilfish** told me that he really murdered the sharks on Friday. Thomas Carrella or Oyster Bay and friends took sixteen blue sharks. Warren said that the action is so hot and heavy offshore that he is going to start night fishing for the sharks starting this weekend because of the demand. Give him a call at 668-3343.

Capt. Ron Grandinetti gave us a call to let us know that starting next weekend, he will be running is new boat, the **Julie III**, a 30 foot Columbia that will now allos him to take six passengers instead of the four he has been. Ronnie specializes in inshore fishing for bluefish, striped bass

Glenn Gobetz proudly shows his 135 lb. mako taken aboard the shark charterboat "Modar I" with Capt. Pete Van Alst. The catch included 9 blue sharks and a brown shark for the party which included Chunky Macicoce, Vic Ziggy, Mario Lombardi, Tony Cpaello and Don Perlstein. One of the blue sharks carried a Fisheries tag and was returned to the Narragansett Lab. Subscribers Club Photo.

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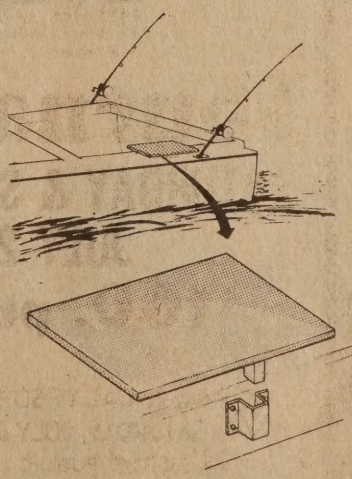

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Left to right; Thomas Sammarco of Islip Terrace with his 52 lb. cod; Butch Switzer of Patchogue with his 47 lb. cod; Kenneth Meserole of Patchogue with his 35 lb. cod; A. Mesuole of Holbrook with a 56 lb. cod that he is holding for Tony Bass of Commack. All fish were taken aboard the Peconic Queen III out of Montauk.

and bottom fishing.

Captain Charles Nappi was running the private boat "Lady Shazaam" on Sunday and loaded up with fluke with one of Charlie's secret spots on the south side of the point. Pete and Linda Ermalinski and ken Bowman boated 60 fluke on fluke belly, and listen to their sizes..Largest doormat taken by Charlie himself was a hefty 12½ pounds and ten others were over six pounds. All fish were in the 2½ to 3 lb. range.

Nat Siegel called to tell us of the remarkable "first shark trip ever" he and his son Robert, age 16, made on Saturday in their 24 foot ProLine. Fishing only a little more than five miles south of the Point, they came across a Great White Shark swimming around. They threw a bunker at him, which he quickly swallowed, then proceeded to whip the 124 pound shark in only 30 minutes with young Robert on the rod only using 30 lb. test line. Back at the West Lake Fishing Lodge where the fish was weighed in, such notable sharkers as Capt. Frank Mundas of the **Cricket II** shook thei heads in dismay.

Henry Colombi of the **Star Island Yacht Club** reported another super offshore weekend for sharks and fluke inshore. Captain Vince Ferrara of the "Jeslin" had a 212 lb. mako shark that Walter Marchalfava took south of the point. Captain John Hopkins of the "Colleen" put his son Greg onto a mako shark of 160 lbs. that the boy, age 12, quickly dispatched. The "Hi-Lee II" whiped up the fluke in the North Rips, taking 63 fluke up to 5 pounds on sandeels and squid. And Captain Bob Carman on the "Miss Gayle Ann" caught 50 fluke fishing the North Rips on a morning charter. Fish up to six pounds were boated. The "Mary Jacque" also hit the North Rips and scored with 83 fluke up to 9 pounds.

Captain Pete Van Alst of the shark boat **Modar I** reports shark fishing continues to improve with more browns and makos showing up along with several big duskies. So far this season every charter aboard the **Modar I** has caught sharks, even a party on July 1st which included Wilson Madden and Robert Robinson of NY and Whitney Goit of Rectortown Va who had chartered to see the tall ships and shark fished while waiting.

Capt. Einar "Doc" Grell and Capt. Gary Kieffer will be chartering their recently purchased well equipped 34 foot twin engined sportfisherman "Barracuda" from West Lake Lodge in Montauk Point commencing this week. The boat will be available for both diving and fishing charters. Capt. Grell and Capt. Kieffer recently completed several very successful shark, bluefish, fluke and weakfish trips out of Fire Island as well as very recently photographing the Tall Ships off Long Island with a Newsday press team. Capt. Grell and Capt. Kieffer have combined more than 50 years of successful fishing experience in Long Island water.

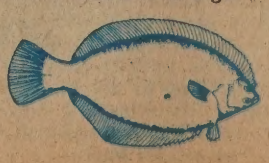
Charterboat **Free Spirit** reports that Mitchell Schoenberg of Bayshore took a 200 lb. blue shark on 30 lb. test on Wednesday, west of the Butterfish Hole about 30 miles out. The monster, which was weighed in at **West Lake Fishing Lodge**, took 2½ hours to land. Mitchell's father also boated 2 blue shark in the 150 lb. class. Blue shark were in the slick all day long as was one sword.

The **L.I.F. staff** took a busman's holiday aboard Captain Ted Monel's **Easy Rider** at Montauk last Wednesday. Big jumbo blues were wire lined on umbrella rigs, and some fluke were also added to the fish box. With Captain John Sekora and mate Bob to help us out, we didn't have any problems and a fish filled day was enjoyed by all.

The **Viking Skipper II** fished Gardiner's Island both Saturday and Sunday. Rudy James of the Bronx went fishing both days and caught 87 porgies up to 1½ pounds. Clams and worms were used for bait. Strong tides made fishing difficult at times.

Captain Mike Bock of the charterboat **Super Shark** reports excellent mako fishing these past few days. Thursday saw a perfect mount size mako of 31 inches and ten pounds come over the rail. On Saturday, Mike Neugent of the Bronx and party had 2 makos and on Sunday Charlie Bayhill of New York took 8 blue shark, two makos and two bluefish. Captain Mike still has a few choice dates available in August and September.

Captain John DeMaio gave us a late call Monday afternoon just as we were going to press to let us know that all of the striped bass have not left the area after all. On Monday morning he took out George Mack, his son Barry and wife Phyllis and they bagged 14 bass up to 30 pounds on AVA Diamond Jigs.



SOUTH SHORE Fishing Report

PROMISED LAND

Good fluke fishing, the best in years said Art at the **Promised Land Fishing Station**. Can 2 at Hick's Island is hot with up to 40 keepers. Keepers are 50 percent with some of 5 and 6 pounds. Porgy fishing close to the station and in the back of Gardiner's.

SAG HARBOR

Noyac Marina reports that on Sunday Bill Fales and Paul Panik with son Paul took 27 good size weaks off the Perik House using only squid. At Jessups they jigged 9 blues. Two men on Friday took over 100 porgies and 5 nice size weaks using sand worms.

SHINNECOCK

Capt. Clark Bellows Jr. of the **Captain Clark Boats** called to report that the porgy fishing has been on a real upswing. On Friday, 20 anglers took over 800 of them, including 25 to 30 small weakfish 1½ to 2 pounds that have moved into the area around Nassau Point in 60 feet of water. The porgies are in thick around all the wrecks and the open bottom west of Robbins Island.

Altenkirch Tackle said there are lots of porgies in the Peconic. Small fluke are in Shinnecock taking squid and shiners. Incoming tide is best. The Inlet area has striped bass hitting bucktails in the early a.m. One bass went to 34 pounds. Blues are offshore and coming closer.

HAMPTON BAYS

Coor's Fishing Station reports the fluke action is steady, with catches ranging from a few fish to a couple of dozen keepers per boat, depending on the angler's abilities and how hard he fishes. Best is early morning tides at the Coast Guard Station and East Channel or late afternoon tides in front of the station. Sandeels, shiners or live killies with strips of squid are working best. Small schoolies are hitting in the Shinnecock Inlet on plugs or jigs on early morning tides. Blues are picking up, with fish up to 14 pounds this weekend taken by shark boats in their chum slick. The blues should be coming in closer to shore by the weekend.

Mike at **Skipper's Fishing Station** said there is plenty of fluke and also shorts. Keepers are averaging 7 to 15 keepers. They are 2 to 3½ pounds. Some sea bass are being taken. The charter boats are having it hot and heavy with the blue fish off Shinnecock Inlet. These are jumbo blues going to 14 pounds.

E. HAMPTON

Three Mile Harbor Fishing Station said porgy fishing is good at buoys 11 and 13. The east side of Gardiner's has plenty of fluke with about 50 percent shorts.

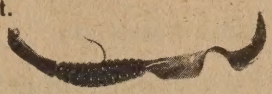
MORICHES BAY

Cerullo Brothers Fishing Station reports very good fluke fishing at buoys 29 and 30. High tide and killies results in a 50 percent keeper rate of 15½ inch fluke.

Loads of fluke said John at **Skidmore's Fishing Station**. Best bet is to drift across the C.G. Station by buoys 34 and 39. Baits are killies and squid but spearing is preferred. About 2 out of 5 are keepers. Flounders are on the south side of buoys 38 and 39 using bloodworms. There are 4 inch snappers in the bay. Crabs are coming into the canals in Harts Cove.

Larry at **L&M Marine** reports the fluke fishing is hot and heavy but with many shorts. Average catch is 75 fluke with about 15-20 keepers. The fish are throughout most of the bay and either

New York City Police and Fireman go shark fishing. Shown are Bill Pfeffer, Les Newlands, John Pfeffer, Charles Duboise and Rich Arote with the sharks they caught aboard the shark charterboat "Modar I" with Capt. Pete Van Alst.



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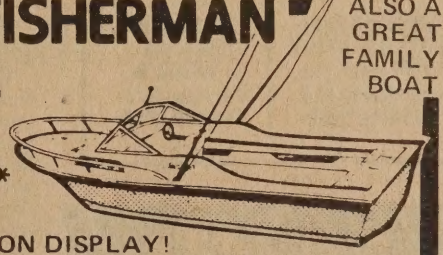

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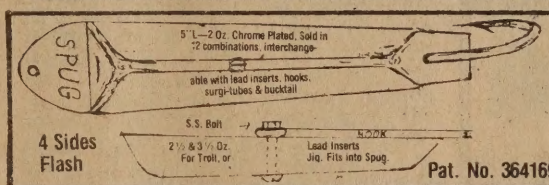
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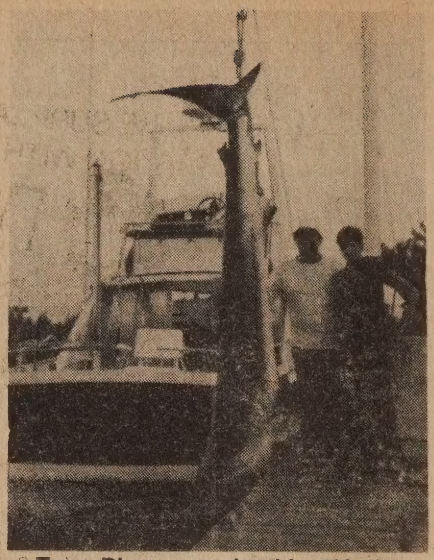

Tony Divone caught this 416 lb. dusky shark on 50 lb. test along with Joe Martinek on his dad's charterboat "Rum N Coke," 15 miles off Moriches and it took 2½ hours to boat. Subscribers Club Photo.

sand eels or killies are good.

Silly Lily Fishing Station reports good fluke fishing on Sunday. Quite a few were in the 3 to 6 lb. range. Best spot was the sand bar at buoys 36-38. The bait working best was sand eels with squid and there are still a lot of shorts. Sea bass have started to be taken on the edge of the channel at buoy 42 by fluke fishermen. On Saturday a couple of 8 to 12 inch snappers were taken.

MASTIC BEACH

Stiriz's Fishing Station reports blue claw crabs are plentiful around buoys 17 and 12 in traps and on rings. Good weakfishing is being done with long squid strips on a three to four foot leader fished four feet from the bottom, best at buoy 12 on both sides of dead low. Smaller bluefish are being taken now, still hitting most lures and are above the weakfish. Leo DiAngelo had 26 blues and four weaks fishing Salty Dogs and Hopkins in these areas. Best fluking is from buoy 20 to 25 with squids, spearing and sand eels on incoming. Lots of shorts but the keepers are from 2½ to 4 pounds. Bigger baits, are resulting in bigger fish. Gary says he just got in a fresh supply of 6 inch spearing.

WEST SAYVILLE

American Sportsmen's Center reports very good fluking in West Channel, West Island and by the Lighthouse on sandeels, squid and killies. Weaks are spotty and the blues have quieted down some and are moving around. Fluke are also available in some numbers off Heckscher.

South Bay Fishing Station tells of blues and weaks between buoys 20 and 25 being taken while drifting almost any artificial lure or on squid baits. The weaks are four to five pounds and the blues are averaging 3 pounds. Fluke can be had between buoys 5 and 19, drifting with spearing, sand eels or squid, fluke ranging from 2½ to 3 pounds. Lots of kingfish in with the fluke on clam baits, fish 1 pound in size. Lots of small snappers around, but not feeding yet.

Young's Fishing Station reports weaks kings and fluke at buoys 5, 28 and 30. Al Morgan and Jack Miller got 38 in a mixed bag on incoming on Saturday using sand eels and squid.

EAST ISLIP

Wet-A-Line Bait and Tackle reports blues are moving in south of the BA buoy taking butterfish baits in bunker slicks. Weaks and fluke have been spotty all around the inlet as are small blues. The Tri-Fin eel worms and Cordell Big O's are working well on the weaks and blues that are around.

OAKDALE

Howie's Fishing Station tells us that Bernie Feuer on Saturday took 35 fluke and 3 weaks on spearing and squid between buoys 11 and 13, up to 5½ pounds. (Fluke) Best fluking has been Sunday, where Roger Larson and Dad took 25 fluke up to 5 pounds along with 1 weak plus some kingfish on squid and Salty Dogs at buoy 4.

OAKBEACH

The Store reports weaks at the Thumb on white Tri-Fin Whiptails with squid or pork rind on the hook. Small blues are invading the inlet mornings and eves. Tom Byrne had 8 weakfish on Sunday and 4 on Saturday at dawn. Fluking is very good in the inlet up to the bridge with a 50/50 keeper ratio. No striper activity from the beaches reported. Good chumming for schoolies at the Moses Bridges. Sharking is picking up.

BAY SHORE

Smokey's Bait and Tackle reports that Chuck Eng took a few bass on sand worms at Gilgo early on Sat. morning, running from 5 to 9 pounds with the tide half way down. Vinny Leo of W. Islip chummed in Steam Boat Channel taking some blues up to 6 pounds and three fluke up to 3½ pounds. Fluking has been very good east of the bridge on spearing and squid combos, both tides. Offshore, blues are picking up nicely west of the Pipe line through Cholera. Carl says to warn crabbers that female crabs with the eggs on the undershell are good for a 25 dollar fine if kept. A 6 pound fluke leads Smokey's Fluke Contest which is still open. You must register before weighing in a fish.

Bullet pool winner and hi-hook with a 39 pound tilefish by Jim Michaels of Holtsville.

CAPTREE

Captains Porter and Sandy of the **Bullet** called to say that last week they murdered blues at the Mud Hole. Blues are definitely in and their night trips are averaging just a bit better than the day trips. Smelts are being used in place of butterfish with excellent results. This coming weekend the tile trip is all booked and Jay suggests early re[illegible]vations for future trips.

The **Anna M III** reports steady good fluking from the Bridge to the Inlet with happy fares debarking every day.

Senior Citizens are being offered a very big break at Captree in that they can save on the dollar toll and the dollar parking fee seven days a week but they must get a Senior Citizens Pass from the Administratin Building at Moses State Park or at Jones Beach (Parking Field 4). In addition, all of the open boats now have senior citizen rates which is $2 off the regular fare Monday through Friday. Holidays are exempt.

Captain Neil Delanoy of the **Lady Ann** called to report "fantastic bluefishing". Fishing is great and the bluefish are now here in force and it's a huge body of fish, with most of the boats catching very good 90 percent of the time. Friday nite was best, when the "20/20 Special" had 15 anglers aboard that took close to 200 bluefish up to 13 pounds. Average fish is in the 6 to 10 pound class. Neil said that there are actually two bodies of fish. The main body is at the Mud Hole, and a smaller body is southeast of the Three Sisters Wreck. Fluke fishing slowed down a little during the week but picked up again on Sunday. Eighteen members of Kenny's Fin and Fur Club had 143 keepers averaging d1½ to 2 pounds. Last of the incoming is best anywhere from the Lighthouse to Point of Woods.

The **Captain Joseph Fleet** reports very good fluking wherever you drop a baited

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The Long Island
FISHERMAN
FISHING TRIP

CONTEST

The Long Island Fisherman Litter Box Contest gives our readers a chance of winning a fishing trip for two on the open boat of their choice and a $10 cash prize. All the fisherman has to do is stop in at one of the better bait and tackle centers and pick up an L.I.F. Litter Box for the rear window of your car. Each week the license number of a car spotted with a litter box will be published—if it's yours, call The Fisherman by 5 P.M. that Friday and tell us the make and model of the car and you're a winner! If no call is received, the cash prize will accumulate.

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LAST WEEK'S WINNER:
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THIS WEEK'S WINNING LICENSE PLATE NUMBER IS:
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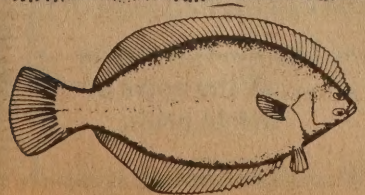

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Capt. Bob Bluegil and Don of Wet-A-Line aboard the "Bugaloo" caught 7 blue sharks. 6 were tagged and released. One weighed in at 65 pounds. Also 4 bluefish were taken between 12 and 13 pounds. The fish were caught southeast of Fire Island. Subscribers Club Photo.

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line from the inlet down to Kismet. Fish range up to 6½ pounds with plenty of keepers and action. The **Joseph IV** is now running two trips daily for bluefish at 7 A.M. and again at 7 P.M.

Captain George Roman of the **Captree Queen** also confirmed the very good fluking for the last 3 or 4 days, with Sunday's fishing fantastic. Largest fish were 7 pounds 14 ounces and 6 pounds 11 ounces. Only about 25 percent of the fluke are now throwbacks and they are spread out all over from Robert Moses Bridge to Ocean Beach. Incoming water has been the best and there are a few stray bluefish running around in the bay and even an occasional weakfish.

BABYLON

Charlie's Fishing Station reports that fluke and weaks are good along with crabs, taking squid and sandeels. The East/West Channel and Fox Creek areas are producing well on all tides. Lots of throwbacks, but enough to keep it interesting.

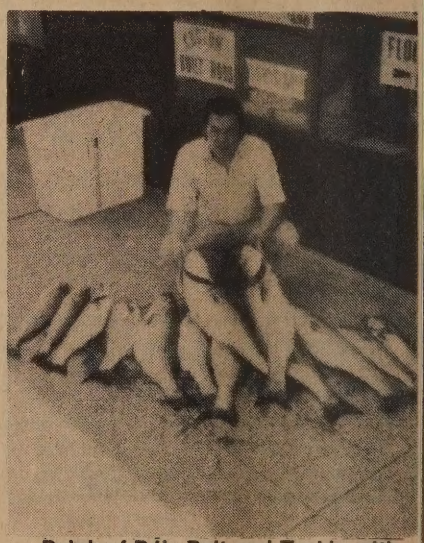
Hi-Hook Fishing Station reports Bill Connor, Bob Parker and Willie Koener had 25 keepers on Sunday taken from Snake Hill and Dickerson's Channel on sand eels and squid, fish running from 1½ to 3¾ pounds. Sal and Marie Boriello of Elmont had 14 blue claws and 2 weakfish fishing west of the bridge with crabs scooped on the flats. All of Mario's boats brought in good fluke catches. Blues and weaks have been spotty with only 4 blowfish taken this week. Snake Hill and Dickerson's Channels are your best bet.

LINDENHURST

Charlie's Bait and Tackle reports crabs are plentiful in the back bays, Bergen Point and the Wellwood Avenue Dock. Weakfish in West Channel north of buoy 6 on squid tipped Salty Dogs with late afternoon and early eve best. A few blowfish at West Channel. Fluking has been good to very good from the State Channel to the inlet on live killies. Joe Giolonza on his boat "Bassass" had 3 bass to 14 pounds on Sunday on live bunker fishing the Sore Thumb. Blues as of this writing are around 130 feet of water southeast of F.I. Inlet, hitting butterfish in bunker chum slicks. Lots of 8 to 12 pound choppers with a 14 pound 7 ounce monster going to Les Berrante on his boat "My Way," a member of the Babylon Tuna Club. Blues are in solid anywhere from 80 to 130 feet of water. Carl Christ took a 269 lb. mako and the $5000 first prize a the recent Long Island Shark Tournament on his boat "Party Time."

AMITYVILLE

George Combs Bait and Tackle reports that the fluking is excellent at West Island, East/West Channel and the Wantagh Bridge area with live killies working best. Crabs at the Amityville flats and town dock with traps and rings. Weaks at the Amityville Cut and State Channel in early morning hours on sandworms on a hi-lo rigs or on plastic jigged shrimp lures. Chummed bass at the Wantagh Bridge and Wanser's Cut with clam bellies at slack tide. Blues very



Ralph of BJ's Bait and Tackle with 126 pounds of bass and 22 pounds of weaks he caught in Jones Inlet bunker bunking and bucktailing. Subscribers Club Photo.

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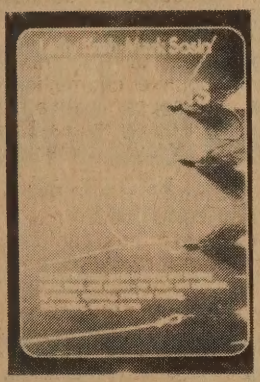

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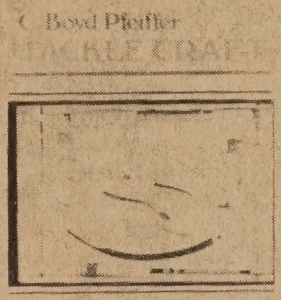

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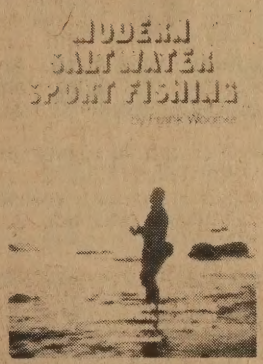

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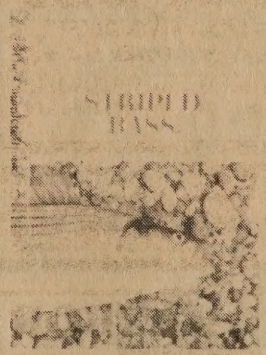

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good 120 to 160 feet of water, fish to 20 pounds. Allison and yellowfin tuna in 140 feet of water on rigged baits and cedar jigs and also on red and white feathers. Shark in 120 feet of water, many species available. Sunday, George weighed in a 46¾ lb. white marlin taken by Herman Kornahrens of Islip at the Hudson Canyon on red and white feathers. This fish is being mounted by New England Taxidermy.

SEAFORD

Lon Wanser Bait and Tackle reports

Gaby Pititbors, Pierre and his father and son with their catch of 19 fluke to 4½ pounds caught on live killies and squid strips aboard their boat at the Robert Moses Bridge. Photo courtesy of Jonas Bait and Tackle.

fluking has been very good all along sloop channel and especially by the piers and at the north side of the Meadowbrook Bridge and at the 2nd Wantagh Bridge with sand eels and spearing, with incoming tide being best. A lot of bass are being picked up along the State Channel on chum at the bridges, fish 8 to 14 pounds. Quite a few fish. All hours, with incoming tide being best. Crabbing has been good and bluefish are being taken by all the shark boats and bluefish chummers.

Salice Boat Basin reports good weakfishing—on fluke rigs—, with Four Corners producing weaks from 6 to 8 pounds. The fluke themselves are good sized with fewer shorts, biting on sand eels and squid from Four Corners to the Meadowbrook Bridge.

BELLMORE

Frank at **Merrick Marine Supplies** on Tuesday night took a 21 pound bass on a live eel in the Fire Island back area. Lots of weakfish are being trolled in Fire Island Inlet on umbrella rigs from the inlet up to the bridge. Fish are 5 to 8 pounds with mornings and eves outgoing best. Good fluke in local back waters. Dick Rubin's El Pescador fished 165 degrees 30 miles due south for 12 mixed varieties of shark up to 167 pounds.

MERRICK

Jimmy at **Nick's Fishing Station** reports blues excellent offshore with good fluke catches at Merrick Point, a4 and 6 pounder being taken over the weekend. Ned's creek and Fundy Bay have been producing towards the end of the week. Small stripers are being chummed at the 3rd Wantagh Bridge. A few weaks have been picked up on fluke rigs, running 4 to 6 pounds.

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BALDWIN

Arthur Street Marina and Fishing Station reports 12 keepers out of 30 fluke falling to killies and squid in Fundy and Long Creek area for one of his boats on Sunday. A 32 pound striper was taken by Jim Glenn on Thursday off the C.G. Station on bunker. Lots of small bass for chummers.

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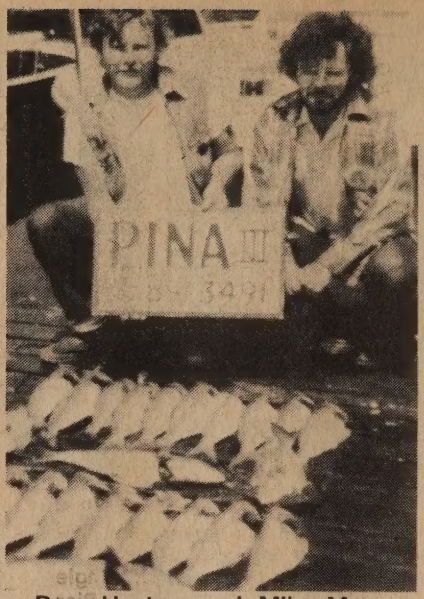

Dave Huntoon and Mike Moran with their catch of 23 snapper blues taken in less then 2 hours aboard Capt. Mike Hipper's "Pina III". The catch was made on red tubes.

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N.Y. BIGHT Fishing Report

FREEPORT

The **Blue Fin** reports Saturday night, miles southwest of the inlet, Captain l Mieschberger had a charter for V.J. b into a mess of bluefish five pounds d up. Captain Sy fluked Saturday and nday for fair catches in local waters. A 2 pound fluke was caught by Elenor aster of Floral Park, a member of the mble Anglers of New Hyde Park. Sy's w boat which is due in shortly will ve night lites for blues and for onlight cruises. It will be strictly a arterboat and will be sailing from the eeport Boatmen's Association.

The **Lucky Strike III** skipper Capt. ave Piggot was out fishing himself on iesday and took 11 blues south of olera from 5 to 8 pounds while umming.

The **Captain Al** has been doing very od sea bass and ling fishing, but now switching to blues day and night. See for sailing times. Al has been doing ry well with the blues over the past w eves and the **Captain II**, Al's arterboat, has been doing a leap job on e night blues. They're here fellows, go t them.

The **Captain Lou II** reports good ocean king now with fish up to 6½ pound is past week. A few sea bass have en mixed in as well, and the best orking bait is a combo killie/sandeel, uid concoction.

Captain Tony Spinelli of the **Forty thoms** fished southwest of the ha on aturday and ran into great bluefishing, ith choppers running from 8 to 10 unds. Also, schools of hammerheads ere encountered. Tony says the area is

Leon Smith with son and friends with 17 blues weighing 10 lbs. and better. The fish were caught at Nortons Point aboard Captain Mickey Hipper's Pina iii.

Col. Wm. Dribbem, Col. Ed Holtz and his son Ed Holtz Jr. and grandwon Ed Holtz III with 45 blues (5 to 8 lbs.) trolling Bingle gorillas west of Leonards Pier aboard the "Jonny K II."

alive with bluefish, just thick with fish. On Sunday, he ran southeast to 140 foot and got second place in the Long Island Open Shark Tournament with a 195 pound mako. Incidentally, mako steaks are now selling at $1.90 per pound.

Frank's Marina and Fishing Station reports the best fluking now is at Swift Creek and the State Channel juncture with sand eels and squid. 35 blues were taken by Eddie Salka on the "Lady Jane" south of Jones Inlet about 15 miles while chumming.

Hook Line and Sinker Bait and Tackle on Woodcleft Avenue, reports some fluke in Swift and Long Creeks on sand eels. Bunker are all over the bay for any one that wants to snag some and go after some cow bass. There are more keeper fluke now then last week. Bob's **Bay Gull** is still plying the waters from Jones Inlet to Zach's Bay with all kinds of hot food, beer and ice cream. So fish and get fat.

The Aloma II had very good fluke fishing on Sunday. They had 3 to 6 keepers per an and the fish averaged 1d½ to 4 pounds. These were taken on sand eels and squid. Saturday was a short day due t a loose shaft coupling on the boat. The fluke fishing was going great 'till then. Capt. Paul Schmidt made refunds for the Saturday trip.

POINT LOOKOUT

The Marie III reports happily that he blues are in heavily, that they did a leap job south of the NC and the fish should be much closer by the weekend. Saturp day and Sunday they just bailed fish and had fantastic catches of these chopping devils. Last week on the Hudson Canyon Trip, 75 tile came over the rail with one hitting 64 pounds. A few cod and a 30 pound pollack were taken from one wreck.

Ed's Fishing Station sais the flke fishing is best in Reynold's Channel with some being taken on the flats. Spotty

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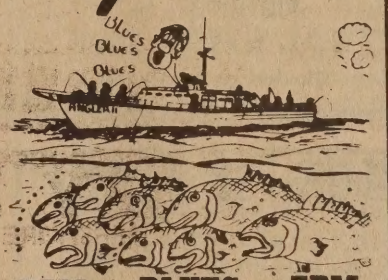

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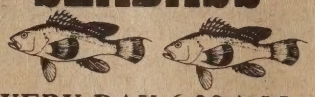
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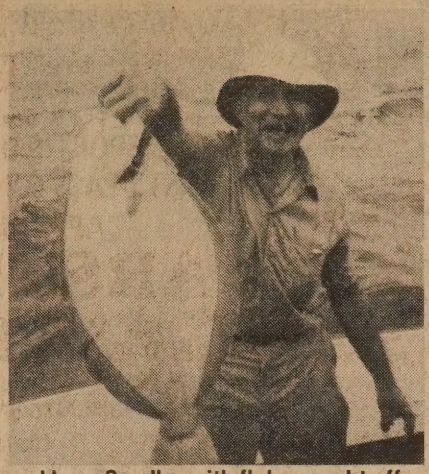

Harry Sandler with fluke caught off New Jersey Highlands using sand eels aboard the charterboat "Chianti." Subscribers Club Photo.

David Dameitt and Chris Fahey caught this monster on 30 lb. test 20 miles south of Lido Water Tower. The mako weighed 278 pounds and took about 2 hours to land. Subscribers Club Photo.

weaks about 2 or 3 were takebn at Long Creek and Fundy Bay by fluke fishermen. There are plenty of sea bass at Meadow and Long Creek Bridges. Some blacks are there as well as at the West Jetty. At this time your reporter would like to remind all fishermen that the fish they leave on the dock that they think are polluted are the same fish that you buy in the markets. They all come from the same waters!

Angler II reports loading up with big blues south of Cholera during the week. Some of these blues went to 14 pounds. Saturday and Sunday was slower but still fantastic.

ISLAND PARK

The Commodore reports pretty fair bay fishing out to Deb's Inlet. there is plenty of action with throwbacks at about 50 percent. The inlet has more fish than the bay and Playland has the most. Bigger fish are taking strip bait and all fish will hit on shiners or squid.

LONG BEACH

Jimmy at **Long Beach Sports Marina** said the anglers are doing very well on the fluke. Killies and squid combos take the bigger fluke but sand eels alone are result in mostly keepers. Best tides are incoming at Duck Point and outgoing in Reynolds Channel. Clam chummers are working the Atlantic Beach Bridge and catching 3 to 6 pound striped bass while bunker dunking which will result in an occasional one of 12 to 14 pounds.

ATLANTIC BEACH

Capt. Ron Lepper of the **Kim** reports that shark fishing is up by leaps and bounds this past week. There have been good amounts of 20-40 lb. school tuna southeast of Deb's Inlet in about 120 to 140 feet of water. Sea water temperature is 70 to 74 degrees and a lot of sea turbles have been seen. This past weekend the **Kim** took 19 sharks and 300 pounds of 10-15 lb. blues along with them. Clam fishermen at the Atlantic Beach Bridge had a couple of very good days. Most fish are 5-15 pounds with a few in the high 20's.

JAMAICA BAY

John at **Cross Bay Rod and Gun** says fishing is now a little of this and a little of that. Snappers of about 4 inches are starting at the North Channel Bridge and in most of the bay. Fluke is pretty good at the Marine Parkway Bridge and outside of Riis Park. Keeper rate is about 60 percent. Breezy Point has stripers that are being taken on bunker or poppers.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

L.I.F. Subscriber Mike Grispo called to say that on Saturday, his father, Sal fishing aboard Mike's "Lady Jane" hooked and boated a 9¼ lb. fluke on sand eels and squid, fishing Sandy Hook. The fish was weighed in at **Stella Maris Bait and Tackle,** Sheepshead Bay.

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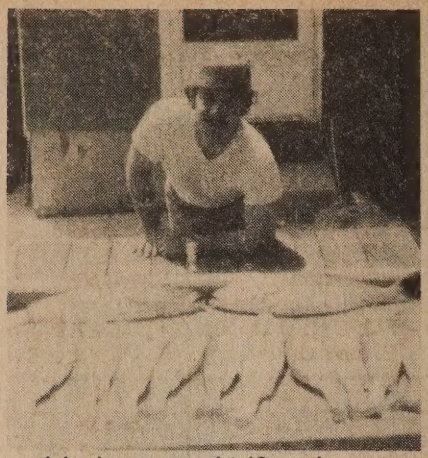


John Longo caught 13 weaks up to 7 pounds on light spinning tackle on the incoming tide in West Channel. Subscribers Club Photo.

The **Big Mohawk II** has been hitting the scattered schools of bluefish which are running from 2 to 14 pounds. Sometimes they are chumming and sometimes the jigs are working better. Night action seems faster, says Capt. Tony. He still has July 23rd and 24th open for night blues.

The open boat **Zephyr** continues to do a good steady mop up job on sea bass along with porgies now, and most anglers are filling up five gallon pails plus.

Sal Jr. at **Stella Maris** reported very good blue fishing both day and night at the Mudhole to the Farms. These are 8 to 10 pound blues that are being taken on diamond jigs or chum. From Sandy Hook to Shrewsbury the fluke fishing is very good. Striped bass fishing is slowly slowering, but bunker dunking at Romer Shoal is your best bet.

The **Eagle** has been fishing the Jersey coast for fluke and is doing very well. The derby is now $665 and W. Morris is in the front with a 7 lb. 2 oz. fluke. Capt. Larry Krim said to try their afternoon fluke trip at 4f:30 P.M. and maybe you could take the derby. Bait and tackle is included in the fare and you are back by 9:30 P.M.

Captain Dan of the **Big Mohawk II** reports excellent blue fishing was had on Saturday by Lenny Pace and party. They had 210 blues the largest of which was 14 pounds taken by Lenny's brother Gene. Sunday's fluke fishing by the Hyes Fishing Club was just adequate. They had 2 to 3 keepers per man using strip bait.

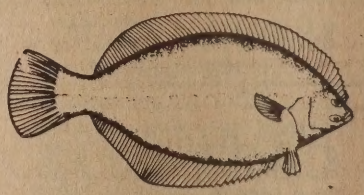
Chianti reports Sunday's fluke fishing was best on the Jersey side of Ambrose towards the shore.

The **Dorothy B** reports that on Saturday fluke fishing was slower than on Sunday. They fished Sea Bright and had 90 percent keepers with pool fish going 4 pounds.

According to **Salvo's Bait and Tackle** the striped bass and blues are pretty good trolling the area from Breezy Point to Verranzano Bridge. Quite a few weaks came in from the Staten Island side of Norton's Point. Fluke are abundant along the sea wall from the Coney Island Pier to the Verrazanno Bridge. Porgy and 4-6 inch snappers are in from the Coney Island Pier to the 69th St. Pier.

STATEN ISLAND

Fluke, fluke and more fluke says Lenny at **Santo's Sport Shop**. Some go to 4½ pounds and are being taken by beach or boat fishermen from Fort Wadsworth to Princess Bay. Penny Beach is supplying light tackle fun with striped bass. A lot of them are shorts. The cement barge at Great Kills Harbor has been supplying 3 to 6 blues for fishermen using poppers. Boats at Princess Bay are getting 2 to 3 pound blues trolling Bingle red Lancers with black and green the next preference. Below the blues are 4 to 5 lb. weaks but it is a problem getting through the blues. Chapel Hill channel has the same action but bigger weaks. Crabbing action remains good to excellent.



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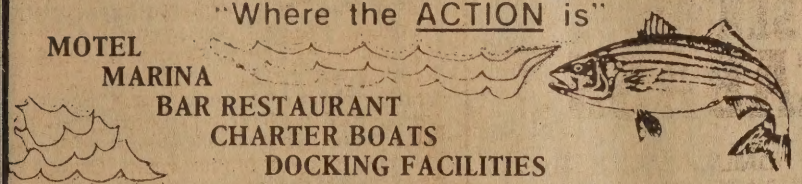

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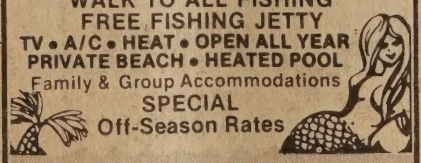

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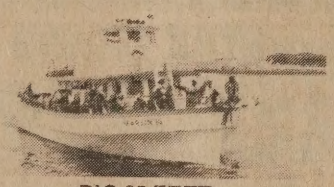

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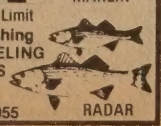

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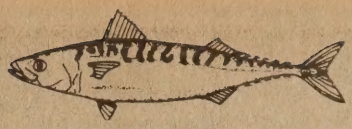

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NORTH SHORE Fishing Report

ORIENT POINT

Orient By the Sea Marina reports good striped bass fishing over the weekend. Bucktailing with pork rind was the thing to use in Plum Gut. Fluke fishing was super at Gardiner's and the Ruins. Most fluke were keepers and a couple went to 8 pounds. Porgies were all over but best at Gardiner's. These fish are 1½ pounds and hitting squid. Average is 30 to 40 per man.

GREENPORT

Captain Dave of the **Pooka V** reports truly excellent fluking with 125 for 10 men on Saturday, though a lot were throwbacks. The amount of keepers was still more than enough. Fish are going up to 7 pounds and Gardiner's and the Sound are both producing. Plenty of good sized porgies and it looks to be an excellent porgy year.

Chip Williams caught this 36 ½ lb. bass on a live bunker in Cold Spring Harbor aboard the charter-boat "Therapy." Photo courtesy of Four Wind's Bait and Tackle.

Kaylee Alayon, Donna Lisa Alayon Mitchell Muniz, Sean Muniz and Nicky Alayon all of the Bronx, with 52 porgies they caught while fishing buoy 17. Photo courtesy of Port of Egypt Marina.

Art Latch of the **Wilhelric** reports that the porgy fishing is building every day. Saturday hi-hook was 50 fish and on Sunday, Willie Chandler of Queens had 62. Eight to 10 blacks of 4 to 5 pounds are taken every trip and also some sea bass.

Damn good fishing said **Art White**. He was referring to Truman Beach and the Ruins. Green Hills had good porgy and sea bass fishing. Weaks up to 10 pounds were taken at the Greenport Harbor jetty. Striped bass are taking bucktails with pork rind or trolled umbrella rigs. On the sound shore from East marion eastward big plugs are taking striped bass. Good blackfishing is to be had in the Sound using fiddler or green crabs.

SOUTHOLD

Peter at **Port of Egypt Fishing Station** said their station at Orient will be open from Wednesday thru Sunday. Truman Beach had a lot of fluke inside of buoy 3.

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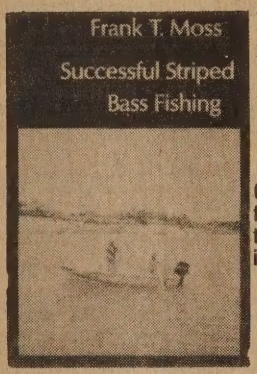

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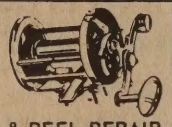
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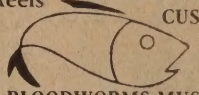
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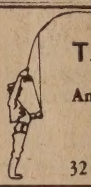
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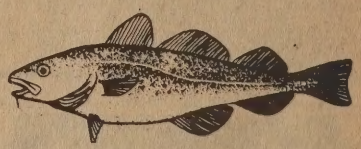

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Jerry DeMeo caught this fine 6 pound 9 ounce fluke off Mattinecock Point. Poto courtesy of Glen Cove Sports Shop.

Some boats had 40 to 50 fluke and as many throwbacks. A lot of 3 to 4 lb. blacks at Mulford Point. In the same area are 2 to 2½ lb. porgies. Porgies are also at South Ferry. Using a hi-lo rig with squid has taken weaks at the Brickyard and Windmill. Fluke are in the bay at the abandoned lighthouse.

NEW SUFFOLK

Capt. Marty's Fishing Station reports pretty good weak fishing close in at Rose Grove. These are 3-4 pounders. Use a hi-lo rig with worms and squid. Porgies are in good supply and hitting worms.

JAMESPORT

Warren's Tackle Center said there is very good porgy fishing from buoy 2 at Jamesport to Rose Grove. These are ¾ to 1½ pound fish and hitting on worms and some clam. Plenty of weaks of 2 to 4 pounds using a whole sandworm on a high hook. Snapper blues of 1 to 1½ pounds at Peconic River mouth.

ROCKY POINT

Nick's Bait and Tackle reports that weaks were trolled on surge tubes while fishing for blues. Weaks were 3 to 5 pounds and blues were 3 pounds. Buoys 7, 9, and 11 all had weaks caught jigging mackerel trees with diamong jigs. Striped bass is slow.

MT. SINAI HARBOR

Ralph's Fishing Station said fluke are good both inside and outside of the harbor and at buoy 11. Weaks are in front of the harbor and falling for shrimp lures with squid or a hi-hook rig with squid.

PORT JEFFERSON

Port Jefferson Sport Shop reports fluke are being taken with shiners at Mount Misery shoals or at Port Jeff inlet. Porgy fishing is on the increase. Small blues are being taken deep on wire at Middle Ground. Striped bass are being taken every night in Conscience Bay on the east side of the harbor on worms.

NORTHPORT

Greenlawn Sports Shop said striped bass were trolled off Honeyman Pt. on worms. Snapper blues are taking trolled strip-O Jr. on the east side of Duck Island. Snappers are starting at Midd Mill Dam and Northport dock.

HUNTINGTON

Capt. Pete of the **Ever Ready** said they have a steady pick of fluke at the Change of Tide. They are fishing Eaton's Neck and Huntington Bay. There have also been a small catch of porgies.

Ronnie's Bait and Tackle recommends using a fluke spinner rig with squid or spearing for fluke fishing at Lloyd Point, Calahans Beach or Huntington Bay. Small blues were plugged at the Lilco hot water outlet and larger ones were taken on mackerel or bunker at buoy 11B. There are striped bass to 15 pounds with weaks of 7 pounds being worm trolled at White wood Point or Cold Spring Harbor causeway.

GLEN COVE

Lots of big striped bass being taken at Morgan Point according to **Glen Cove Sports Shop**. The rocky areas had a lot of small striped bass being taken on trolled worms. Occasional black to be had in the deeper water and rocky holes. Snappers are building at the Sluiceway but only 4 to 5 inches.

PORT WASHINGTON

Moreland's Bait and Tackle said fluke fishing is very good with mostly keepers. Try drifting from the shallow to deeper water. Striped bass are hitting popping plugs during the day and at night worming is best.

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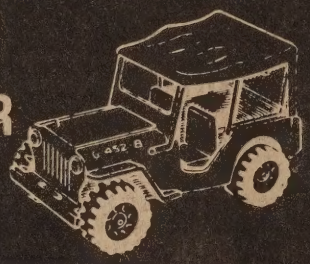

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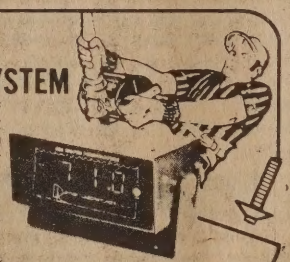

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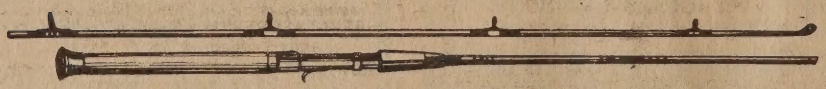


SINKER BOUNCING

(Continued from page 6.)

a waste of time."

I had a good feeling about that wreck, though, and I finally coaxed him to pull up and get the anchor over. It took a lot of coaxing, believe me.

Artie was right. The tide was vicious. We had quite a time getting into position, and after fooling around for twenty minutes, I was beginning to feel sorry I mentioned it. Sea Bright began to look extra appealing. It took a lot of maneuvering, plus some choice, heartfelt well-chosen words. When we finally did get settled, it was necessary to "walk" our bait to the wreck in order to fish it properly. It also took two eight ounce sinkers to hold bottom, and then we barely held our own.

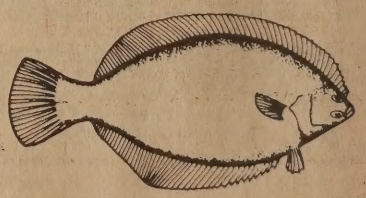
We never did get to Sea Bright that day.

I remember we half-filled a large plastic tub with good-sized blackfish, the largest maybe four pounds. When the tide slacked off, the fishing slacked off, too. A few tardy sea porgies and a lone bass joined in the fun shortly before we quit.

If fishing that wreck was a "waste of time", I'd sure like to waste some more.

There are several other similar incidents I recall, but enough is enough. You understand what I'm trying to bring out. Don't be afraid to give those unlikely-looking places a try. What have you to lose? A little time, maybe; but what if they pay off?

Remember. Fish are like gold, they're where you find them. And you might just find them in the most unlikely places.



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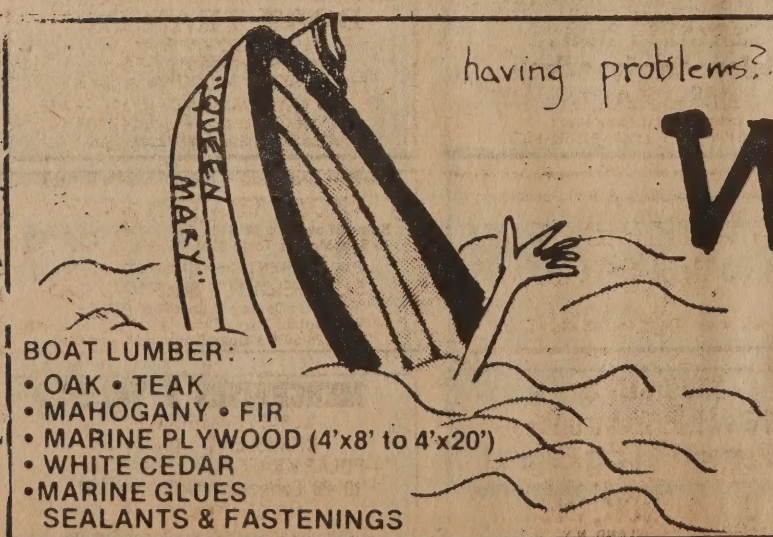

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HIGH TIDE TABLES

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	Breakwater Harbor AM	Breakwater Harbor PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGE-PORT AM	BRIDGE-PORT PM	NEW-PORT AM	NEW-PORT PM	DATE
THUR	11:24	11:37	—	12:17	—	12:19	12:29	1:05	2:35	3:05	2:24	2:51	11:16	11:33	7/15
FRI.	—	12:09	12:32	1:03	12:27	1:04	1:16	1:53	3:07	3:36	3:09	3:36	—	12:05	7/16
SAT.	12:22	12:53	1:16	1:50	1:10	1:48	2:04	2:43	3:44	4:13	3:55	4:23	12:18	12:52	7/17
SUN.	1:05	1:38	2:02	2:41	1:55	2:32	2:57	3:35	4:26	4:55	4:44	5:14	1:06	1:42	7/18
MON.	1:52	2:24	2:52	3:32	2:37	3:17	3:51	4:29	5:14	5:45	5:37	6:04	1:59	2:34	7/19
TUE	2:42	3:15	3:45	4:27	3:26	4:06	4:49	5:20	6:11	6:44	6:33	6:59	2:53	3:29	7/20
WED	3:39	4:11	4:41	5:19	4:23	5:01	5:44	6:08	7:32	7:48	7:30	7:53	3:48	4:20	7/21
THUR.	4:40	5:07	5:37	6:09	5:25	5:54	6:36	6:53	8:52	8:49	8:25	8:44	4:44	5:13	7/22

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet.....—0 50" is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." —0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6 ½ hours to this figure.

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+ 0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	— 0 01
Red Bank, Navesink R.I.	+ 0 48
Long Branch	— 0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	— 0 18
Shark River Basin	+ 0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	— 0 12
Seaside Park	— 0 33
Mantoloking Bridge	+ 5 34
TOMS RIVER	+ 4 37
Waretown	+ 2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	— 0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+ 2 33
Beach Haven	+ 1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	— 0 01
Seven Islands	+ 0 12
Graveling Point	+ 1 05
Mullica River	+ 1 55
Grassy Bay	+ 1 08
ABSECON INLET	+ 0 14
Atlantic City Pier	— 0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+ 0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+ 0 46
CORSON INLET	+ 0 09
TOWNESEND INLET	+ 0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+ 0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+ 0 45
Cape May Harbor	— 0 02
Rehoboth Beach	— 0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+ 0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	— 0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+ 1 25
East Quogue	+ 2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+ 1 18
Indian Reservation	+ 3 05
MORICHES INLET	— 0 56
Smith's Point	+ 3 28
Harts Cove	+ 1 30
Potunck Point	+ 3 35
Mastic Beach	+ 3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	— 0 38
Democrat Point	— 0 38
Coast Guard Station	— 0 19
Fire Island Light	+ 0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+ 3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+ 3 20
Bay Shore	+ 2 23
Babylon	+ 2 12
Amityville	+ 2 21
JONES INLET	— 0 19
Zachs Bay	+ 1 25
Seaford Harbor	+ 2 05
Freeport Creek	+ 0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	— 0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+ 0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	— 0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+ 0 38
JFK Airport	+ 0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+ 0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+ 0 08
Bayville Bridge	+ 0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+ 0 03
Northport Bay	+ 0 03
Norwalk Islands	+ 0 10
Smithtown Bay	— 0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+ 0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+ 0 03
New Haven Harbor	+ 0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	— 0 08
Herod Point	— 0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+ 0 19
Horton Point	— 0 20
Truman Beach	— 0 42
Falkner Island	— 0 13
Sachem Head	— 0 10
Branford Harbor	— 0 07
New Haven Harbor	— 0 08
Milford Harbor	— 0 07
Stratford	+ 0 27
Shelton	+ 1 36
Black Rock Harbor	— 0 03
Saugatuck River	— 0 01
South Norwalk	+ 0 10
Greens Ledge	— 0 01
Stamford	+ 0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+ 0 06
Greenwich	+ 0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+ 0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+ 0 12
Greenport	+ 1 04
Southold	+ 1 43
New Suffolk	+ 2 26
South Jamesport	+ 2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+ 2 33
Noyack Bay	+ 2 05
Sag Harbor	+ 0 59
Gardiners Bay	+ 0 21
Promised Land	— 0 14
Montauk Inlet	— 0 25
Montauk Point	— 1 13
Niantic	+ 1 20
Stonington	— 0 33
Noank, Mystic River	— 0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	— 0 01
Norwich	+ 0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+ 1 10
Lyme	+ 1 24
Essex	+ 1 38
East Haddam	+ 2 41
Higganum Creek	+ 2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	— 0 10
Execution Light	— 0 06
Manhasset Bay	— 0 01
Hempstead Harbor	— 0 11
City Island	— 0 03
Rye Beach	— 0 28
Port Chester	— 0 09
Mamaroneck	— 0 08
New Rochelle	— 0 24
Davids Island	— 0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	— 0 10
Miami Beach	+ 1 17
East Point	+ 0 53
Egg Island Point	+ 0 33
Cape Henlopen	— 0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+ 0 09
Mispillion River Ent.	+ 0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+ 0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+ 0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+ 0 46
Spuyten Duyvil	+ 0 58
Ossining	+ 1 53
Peekskill	+ 2 24
West Point	+ 3 16
Newburg	+ 3 42

On NEWPORT

Sakonnet	— 0 10
Tiverton	+ 0 21
Beavertail Point	— 0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+ 0 10
Bristol	+ 0 10
Warren	+ 0 21
Nayatt Point	+ 0 12
Pawtucket	+ 0 21
East Greenwich	+ 0 16
Wickford	+ 0 12
Narragansett Pier	— 0 08
Point Judith Harbor	— 0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+ 0 05
Old Harbor	— 0 14
Watch Hill Point	+ 0 44

SUNRISE/SUNSET

7/4	5:29	8:39
7/14	5:36	8:35
7/19	5:41	8:31
7/24	5:45	8:27
7/29	5:50	8:22

PHASES OF THE MOON

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	2nd Qtr.
7/27	7/4	7/11	7/19

The Original Knight SOLUNAR TABLES When To Fish Or Hunt

The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour-and-a-half or two hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type.

	AM Minor	AM Major	PM Minor	PM Major
THURS.	8:25	**2:40**	8:50	**3:00**
FRI.	9:15	**3:25**	9:35	**3:50**
SAT.	10:05	**4:10**	10:20	**4:35**
SUN.	10:50	**5:00**	11:10	**5:20**
MON.	11:35	**5:45**	11:55	**6:10**
TUES.	—	**6:30**	12:25	**6:50**
WED.	12:40	**7:10**	1:05	**7:35**
THURS.	1:30	**7:55**	1:55	**8:20**

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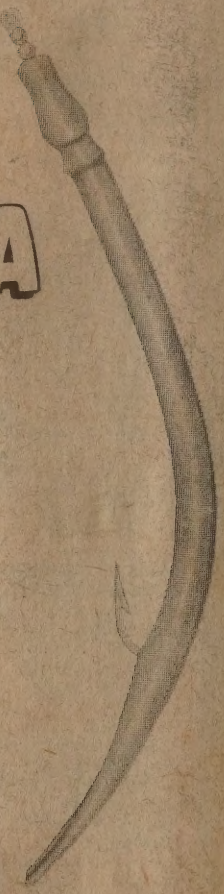

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